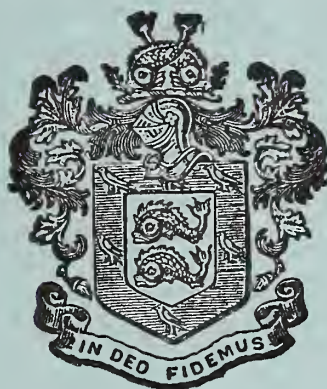


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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1954

W. S. PARKER, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.I.H., D.P.H.



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*To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the
County Borough of Brighton.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1954.

The most important indicator of the general standard of public health work in our town, namely the Infantile Mortality Rate, continues to show a reduction. Fifty years ago my predecessor, the late Sir Arthur Newsholme, quoted to you in his Annual Report for 1904 an Infant Mortality Rate of 133 deaths of children under the age of one year for every 1,000 live births. He remarked that "We have no right to be contented until the Infant Mortality is less than one tenth of the live births, that is 100 per 1,000." I am able to inform you that the figure for 1954 in Brighton is 22 deaths per 1,000, the lowest ever recorded, and that the national figure is 25·5 per 1,000.

During 1954 there were 2,060 births in Brighton: no mother died in childbirth.

No cases of diphtheria occurred. There has been no diphtheria in Brighton since 1950 with the solitary exception in 1952 of one case infected elsewhere and diagnosed after arrival here. This state of affairs, satisfactory though it is, gives no grounds for complacency. It is in the nature of an overdraft on the protection afforded by immunisation against diphtheria. The present immunisation rate for the borough cannot be regarded as satisfactory. Further efforts are needed to secure a sufficiently high percentage of infants protected against diphtheria to form a barrier to the risk of spread of infection when next it is introduced into the town. Free immunisation is always available either from the family doctor or the infant welfare clinic. *The remedy lies in the hands of the parents.*

The figures for smallpox vaccination are alarmingly low. Five years are not yet gone since the Brighton outbreak when, under the stimulus of immediate danger, half the population, 80,000 people, sought vaccination in a month. It is truly remarkable that the ghastly lesson of the lives unnecessarily and hideously destroyed in Brighton in 1951 has not yet been learned.

On the direction of the Health Committee an Occupational Therapy Unit for tuberculous patients was opened in March, 1954. This valuable ancillary is providing a new stimulus to a group of chronic patients whose condition was liable to deterioration due to *ennui*.

The investigation into the keeping qualities of milk has been continued. The unsatisfactory results have been passed on to the responsible quarter. In earlier days these unhygienic circumstances would not have been allowed to arise. In 1949 your staff were deprived of the powers to remedy them which

were then transferred from the local authority to the central government. I have still to be convinced that an adequate alternative has been found for the preventive work carried out previously by the staff of your Health Department.

In submitting this report I wish to acknowledge the work of the Health Department staff during the year and the help of the heads of the various sections in preparing the report. I also wish to mention the co-operation of the local general medical practitioners. It would be impossible to maintain the present high standard of infectious disease control without the help of the local branch Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council under Dr. Jameson. The work of the Department has been greatly facilitated by the happy personal relation with Mr. Dawes, Secretary of the Brighton and Lewes Hospital Management Committee and his staff and with Mr. Holden, Secretary of the Brighton Executive Council.

I mention also the helpful co-operation of my fellow Chief Officers in the Municipal Service, in particular the Town Clerk.

I cannot conclude without thanking the two Chairmen of the Health Committee, Councillor P. H. Buxton and Councillor G. B. Baldwin for their advice and encouragement and the members for their continuing interest and support during the year.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. S. PARKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

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MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES ON 31st DECEMBER, 1954

Health Committee:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN W. G. DUDENEY)
ALDERMAN J. A. T. LEAK
COUNCILLOR G. B. BALDWIN
(Chairman)
" Mrs. A. H. BEVIS
" A. W. BRIGGS
" W. H. G. BUTTON
" P. H. BUXTON
" W. J. C. CLARKE
" S. D. DEASON
" Mrs. V. G. HARMER

COUNCILLOR J. J. LOUGHRAN
" H. NETTLETON
" T. M. O'H. PARTRIDGE
" Mrs. D. K. G. WATSON-MILLER
(Chairman of Housing Committee)
Miss E. HYSLOP
MR. C. C. TITCOMB
MR. T. REES MORGAN
DR. L. J. BEYNON
DR. D. ARCHDALE-SMITH
Miss M. L. HAWKER

Health Services Sub-Committee:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN DUDENEY)
ALDERMAN LEAK
COUNCILLOR BALDWIN
" Mrs. BEVIS
" BRIGGS

COUNCILLOR BUTTON
" BUXTON
" Mrs. HARMER
" PARTRIDGE (Chairman)
DR. BEYNON
Miss HYSLOP

Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN DUDENEY)
COUNCILLOR BALDWIN
" Mrs. BEVIS (Chairman)
" BRIGGS

COUNCILLOR DEASON
" Mrs. HARMER
" PARTRIDGE
DR. BEYNON
Miss HYSLOP

Home Nursing Sub-Committee:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN DUDENEY)
COUNCILLOR BALDWIN (Chairman)
" Mrs. BEVIS
" BRIGGS
" Mrs. HARMER

COUNCILLOR PARTRIDGE
Miss HYSLOP
MR. THYER
Mrs. AUSTIN SMITH
Miss WATTS

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

W. S. PARKER, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.I.H., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

I. D. M. NELSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

ROSA MORRISON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Senior Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

BERYL P. EADIE,† B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

HANNAH MUSHIN,† M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H., Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

G. H. C. WALMSLEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Chest Physician.

R. F. WRIGHT,† B.Sc., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C., Public Analyst.

S. GOURLEY,† M.R.C.V.S., Veterinary Officer.

R. S. CROSS,* F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A., Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Miss E. PATTERSON, R.S.C.N., S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., Superintendent Health Visitor.

T. RASMUSSEN, Executive Officer Mental Health Service.

A. J. SUMPTER, Chief Ambulance Officer.

Miss M. I. HUMPHERSON, Domestic Help Supervisor.

Miss B. E. DAWSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., Matron Day Nursery.

R. L. SCOTOW,* Superintendent of Public Abattoir.

R. W. GRUTCHFIELD,* Chief Clerk.

* Holds Food Inspector's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

† Part-time.

VITAL AND GENERAL STATISTICS, 1954

Home population, mid-year (Registrar-General's estimated figure)	...	157,900
Area (in acres)	...	14,613
Number of inhabited houses 31st December (rate books)	...	46,335
Rateable value	...	£2,147,248
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£8,640
Marriages, 1,301. Rate per 1,000 population, 8.24		

Live births:	Males	Females	Total	Birth rate	Adjusted birth
Legitimate	957	929	1886	per 1,000	rate
Illegitimate	86	88	174	population	
	1043	1017	2060	13.05	13.83
Area comparability factor (births)	...	1.06			

					Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	Rate per 1,000 population
Still births	...	...	...	47	23	0.30
					Crude rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted rate
Deaths	...	...	...	2,142	13.57	10.45
Area comparability factor (deaths)	...	0.77				

Childbirth deaths:		Rate per 1,000
Puerperal infections	...	adjusted (live
Others	...	and still) births

Deaths of infants under 1 year:		Rate per 1,000 adjusted live births
Legitimate	...	20
Illegitimate	...	40
	45	22

Deaths from cancer (all ages)	...	442
„ „ measles (all ages)	...	—
„ „ whooping cough (all ages)	...	—
„ „ diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	2
„ „ diphtheria (all ages)	...	—

Diseases Notified during the Year 1954

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	At all ages	Age Incidence							No. of deaths during the year
		Under 1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25+	
Scarlet fever ...	125	—	12	21	79	8	2	3	—
Whooping cough ...	492	41	127	130	173	14	2	5	—
Ac. poliomyelitis: paralytic	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
non-paralytic	5	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	—
Measles ...	47	4	14	15	6	2	4	2	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia ...	21	—	—	—	—	—	11	10	—
			0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65+		
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. pneumonia	81	5	5	15	21	16	24	—	—
Dysentery ...	330	119	119	157	38	12	4	34	—
Ac. encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or typhoid fever	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Paratyphoid fevers ...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas ...	23	—	—	—	4	11	8	8	—
Meningococcal infection	3	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	1
Malaria ...	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	—
Food poisoning ...	133	16	—	—	63	21	9	9	1
Tuberculosis ...	(see page 21)								

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

The incidence of notifiable diseases apart from dysentery was low. Poliomyelitis cases numbered 6 (16), Scarlet Fever 125 (161), Whooping Cough 492 (531), Measles 47 (2,041), Puerperal Pyrexia 21 (45), Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal) 81 (129), Enteric Group 3 (5), Erysipelas 23 (30), Dysentery 330 (58), Food Poisoning 133 (95), Meningococcal Meningitis 3 (4).

There were no cases of diphtheria. This is the second year that the town has been free from Diphtheria and the seventh year since there was a death from this disease in Brighton.

There was one death from Meningococcal Meningitis in an infant aged 15 months and one death from Salmonella infection in an elderly woman aged 72 years: the latter case illustrates the danger to the elderly of infection by food poisoning organisms.

Acute Poliomyelitis

There were 5 confirmed cases in Brighton residents and an additional case occurred in a youth who was on a camping holiday in the area.

All cases were removed to Foredown Isolation Hospital and only one patient developed the paralytic form of the disease.

The notification of cases was received as follows:—

Seasonal Occurrence:

June 1; July 1; October 1; November 2; December 1.

Age Distribution:

				Male	Female
Under 1	...	...	...	—	—
1— 3	...	...	...	1	—
4— 9	...	...	...	—	—
10—14	...	...	...	1	1
15—24	...	...	...	1	—
25 & over	...	...	...	1	1
				—	—
				4	2
				—	—

Meningococcal Meningitis

3 cases were notified to the Department. There was one death of an infant aged 15 months.

Small Pox

No cases occurred during the year. An air traveller to this country who had been in contact with smallpox abroad and was on holiday in this area was kept under surveillance for the required period.

Typhoid Fever

In December a case of typhoid fever was notified in a woman aged 50 (working with the railway system of the town). She was removed to Foredown Isolation Hospital. Searching enquiries were made during the Xmas period as to the source of infection but this was not established.

No further cases developed and the patient recovered.

Paratyphoid Fever

Two isolated cases of Paratyphoid B occurred during the year, one patient being admitted to hospital.

Again enquiries failed to establish the source of infection in either case.

Dysentery

There was a considerable incidence of bacillary dysentery during the year—330 cases of *Shigella Sonnei* infection being notified to this department—34 patients were removed to Foredown Isolation Hospital.

There were four outbreaks in schools involving 111 children and two members of the staffs, and two outbreaks in Kindergartens and Nursery Schools involving 42 children and 11 members of the staffs.

This disease, although generally mild in character, is the most infectious of bowel conditions and is characterised by the number of symptomless excretors of the bacillus, particularly in children. It is highly desirable for every child to be taught the principles of "hand hygiene" at an early age and thereby limit the risk of this and other bowel infections being spread amongst the community.

During the year further improvements to toilet and washing facilities in schools were carried out by the Education Committee. The ultimate aim is to ensure that all schools are provided with adequate wash hand basins together with adequate supplies of hot water.

Food Poisoning

Investigations into all notified cases of suspected food poisoning, gastro-enteritis and enteritis were carried out by this Department with the help of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

128 ^{INDIVIDUAL} cases were investigated and the agents identified were as follows:—

Salmonella Typhi-murium	...	...	38
Salmonella Derby	...	...	1
Salmonella Anatum	...	...	1
Salmonella Pullorum	...	...	1
Salmonella Thompson	...	...	1
Clostridium Welchii	...	...	7
Unidentified Agents	...	...	79

A woman aged 72 years died from *Salmonella Typhi-murium* infection.

The patient did not seek medical advice until she was seriously ill and despite energetic medical care, died of an overwhelming toxæmia.

Owing to the delay in seeking medical attention and subsequent notification to this department, it was extremely difficult to trace the source of infection.

There were no major outbreaks of food poisoning during the year. There was a minor outbreak of *Clostridium Welchii* infection in a guest house during the summer which was traced to cooked beef. The proprietor and his family and 22 guests were affected.

A high standard of hygiene in this establishment was in evidence and advice given to the proprietor in methods of preparation of cooked meat dishes to prevent a re-occurrence of this type of infection was readily accepted.

Five cases of *Salmonella Typhi-murium* infection and 3 cases of *Clostridium Welchii* infection were traced to foodstuffs which had been prepared and sold or consumed outside of Brighton.

It was thought that improperly cooked duck eggs were considered to be responsible in 10 cases of *Salmonella Typhi-murium* infection.

In June, 15 of a group of 22 campers spending the Whitsun week-end at Brighton were taken ill with suspected food poisoning. The symptoms and history of the illness suggested that a true chemical poisoning as opposed to an acute infection of the gastro intestinal tract was responsible.

Four members of the party were admitted to hospital from Brighton: the remainder were taken ill whilst travelling to or on arrival home.

No cases occurred outside the group of campers.

The major burden of confirmatory investigation fell upon the Health Department of the town to which the campers returned. This led to the examination of an improperly soldered and defective billycan used for the preparation of food consumed by the campers.

Venereal Disease

New local cases treated at the Brighton V.D. Treatment Centre during 1954 were as follows:

				M.	F.
Syphilis	...	...	...	10	12
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	45	12
				55	24
Conditions other than V.D.				150	51

Verminous Cases

A specially built Cleansing Centre was opened on 25th August.

Verminous cases cleansed numbered 492, as follows:

				Men	Women	Children	Total
Cleansing Centre	...	...	...	6	5	—	11
Welfare Services premises	...	...	...	38	7	—	45
School Clinic Annexe	...	...	...	—	—	436	436

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination

Record cards were received for 1,908 persons as follows:

	Under 1 year		1-4 years		5-14 years		Total under 15 years		15 years and over
	No.	Percent-age	No.	Percent-age	No.	Percent-age	No.	Percent-age	
Primary ...	462	22·32	578	7·20	35	0·16	1075	3·42	41
Re-vaccination	—	—	20	0·25	61	0·29	81	0·26	711

Immunisation (including combined diphtheria/whooping cough)

	Under 5 years Combined Diphtheria only		5-14 years Combined Diphtheria only		Total under 15 years Combined Diphtheria only	
Primary						
By Council's Medical Officers	497	261	2	311	499	572
By General Medical Practitioners	665	81	18	19	683	100
	1162	342	20	330	1182	672

Reinforcing			
By Council's Medical Officers	220	2191	2411
By General Medical Practitioners	96	193	289
	316	2384	2700

Percentage immunised against diphtheria	17·03	12·84	14·50
---	-------	-------	-------

In addition during the year 108 children received one injection but did not complete the course.

When a child is three months old a circular on vaccination and immunisation is sent to the parents. The Health Visitors visit those cases where the child has not been immunised against diphtheria: (1) when about 11 months old, and (2) between the ages of 13 and 15 months.

Children are immunised at the 12 Infant Welfare Centres and, in addition, a session for school children is held once a week at the School Clinic.

DOMESTIC HELP SCHEME

Applicants are assessed as to contributions towards cost on a fixed scale. Acute cases normally receive priority over chronic cases. Those found ineligible to receive the services of a helper either had relatives, or other persons available, or no medical reasons for help existed.

Helpers (employed on hourly basis) at end of year	45
Hours worked by helpers	47,318
Applications for assistance received	928
Maternity cases given help	214
Acute sickness cases given help	113
Chronic sickness cases given help	44
Old age pensioners (not included above) given help	137

Total number of cases dealt with	508
---	-----

(Included in the above figures are 67 cases brought forward from 1953).

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948-1951

AGED PERSONS

Three applications were submitted to the Magistrates for action, and Orders were made under Section 47 for the detention in hospital of three women for a period of three weeks.

These women were removed to the Brighton General Hospital. One, aged 70, died five days later; one, aged 71, was discharged to a Welfare Services Home after eight months, and one, aged 95, was transferred to the Newhaven Downs Hospital after two months.

I am indebted to Mr. A. W. Spanswick, Director of Welfare Services, for the following information:

INCIDENCE OF BLINDNESS

A. Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons

	CAUSE OF DISABILITY			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7 (c) of Forms B.D.8 recommends:				
(a) No treatment	18	3	—	27
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical)	3	1	—	13
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	1	1	—	13

The figures given relate to the main causes of blindness given on forms B.D.8, but in

(a) Cataract is given as a secondary cause in 8 cases, Glaucoma in 2 cases and others in 9 cases.

(b) Cataract secondary in 3 cases and others in 3 cases.

Of the 17 persons for whom treatment was recommended, 12 were already patients at an Eye Hospital and continued to attend. Of the remaining 5 one now attends hospital regularly, two are awaiting decisions as to cataract operations and two are receiving treatment from their own doctor.

Number of forms B.D.8 received: 65.

B. *Ophthalmia neonatorum*

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	—
(ii) Number of cases in which:	
(a) Vision lost	—
(b) Vision impaired	—
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year ...	—

EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS

On the 1st April, 1954, the Council's scheme for the provision of Welfare Services under Sections 29 and 30 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, for Handicapped Persons came into operation. The Council's duties under the scheme are administered by the Welfare Services Department.

Between the 1st April and 31st December, 1954, 103 cases were fully investigated and included on the Register of Handicapped Persons. 13 of these were epileptics and 10 suffered from various forms of cerebral palsy. Amongst 134 cases awaiting investigation there are known to be 6 epileptics and 5 sufferers from cerebral palsy.

Cases of Epilepsy Investigated

	Resident in Special Schools	Attending local special class	Admission to Colony arranged	<i>Special Services</i>	
				Permanent Hospital accommoda- tion arranged	Recuperative holiday arranged
Under 16 years of age = 5	3	1	—	—	—
Over 16 years of age = 8	—	—	3	1	1

Four of the five children were maintained in Lingfield Epileptic Colony by the Education Committee. One of these was discharged during the year, having reached school leaving age, and the Welfare Services Department

arranged his admission to the Gardening Training Class at Chalfont Epileptic Colony. One child attended a Central Special Class for Handicapped Children in Brighton.

One adult was admitted to permanent hospital accommodation after representations to the Hospital Authorities. As an emergency measure one adult was accommodated in an Old People's Home until her admission to St. Francis' Hospital.

Two adults were admitted to Epileptic Colonies directly through the Welfare Services Department and one similar admission was arranged in collaboration with St. Francis' Hospital.

The Welfare Services and Health Departments combined to arrange a recuperative holiday for one adult. One case has been discussed with the Ministry of Labour with a view to a Rehabilitation Course being provided.

Handicraft instruction was provided for 2 adult epileptics.

Cases of Cerebral Palsy Investigated

	Resident in Special Schools	Attending Local Special Class	Receiving Home Tuition	<i>Special Services</i>	
				Part III Accommoda- tion arranged	Recuperative Holiday arranged
Under 16 years of age = 7	2	2	1	—	—
Over 16 years of age = 3	—	—	—	1	1

Two children are in the Heritage Craft School at Chailey and two attend the Central Class for Handicapped Children.

One girl attends an ordinary school but is awaiting admission to Queen Elizabeth's College at Leatherhead; another girl has a Home Teacher and a boy with cerebral diplegia is in the care of the Children's Department awaiting admission to a Residential School. This boy is also partially-sighted.

Accommodation at a Rest Home was arranged for an adult spastic for two weeks recuperation and transport and an escort provided for the journey.

A spastic (?) woman, aged 36 years, was placed in a Home for the Disabled. No record of her medical history could be traced either through her own doctor or through local hospitals at which she was stated to have had treatment as a child.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

The total number of live births registered was 2,060 of which 1,043 were males and 1,017 females. Included in the total are 174 illegitimate births. The birth rate was 13.05 per 1,000 of population.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

The infant mortality rate was 22; the actual number of deaths being 45.

MIDWIFERY

Hospitals and Nursing Homes	Number of Midwives Practising	Number of beds	Number of cases from Brighton		Total number of cases		Number of cases in which analgesia administered
			Doctor present	Doctor not present	Doctor present	Doctor not present	
Brighton General ...	14	64	184	916	219	1037	
Sussex Maternity ...	24	62	134	442	248	788	
Nursing Homes ...	1	7	15	—	15	—	
TOTAL ...	39	133	333	1358	482	1825	
Domiciliary							
Sussex Mat. Hosp.							
District Midwives	7		30	244			244
Municipal Midwives	3		46	174			209
Brighton District Nursing Association	3		18	37			50
Private Midwives ...	1		1	—			1
TOTAL ...	14		95	455			504

Twelve pupils completed their district training in Brighton as part of a Part II midwifery course.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics

		Number of Brighton cases attended			
		Ante-natal	Attendances	Post-natal	Attendances
Brighton General Hospital	...	821	9162	704	704
Sussex Maternity Hospital	...	684	7117	543	738
Municipal Clinic, Sussex Street	...	357	1650	70	78

Ante-natal relaxation and post-natal exercises are taught in all the clinics.

Midwives Acts

Under the Rules of the Central Midwives Board, 74 midwives notified their intention to practise within the Borough.

Medical Aid and other notifications

Number of domiciliary cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year by a midwife, 163.

PREMATURE INFANTS

Arrangements are in force whereby the weights of all children born are entered on the notification of birth cards. Where the weight is 5½ lbs. or under, special visits are made and, where necessary, premature babies can be admitted to the Maternity wing of the Brighton General Hospital.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

No cases were notified to the Medical Officer of Health.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS 1951

The 21 cases notified all recovered.

CONTRACEPTIVE AND FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC

New cases treated during year belonging to Brighton were referred by

Chest Physician	...	...	...	3
General Medical Practitioners	...	...	...	44
Brighton General Hospital	...	...	...	1
Sussex Maternity Hospital	...	...	...	2
Maternity and Infant Welfare M.O.	...	...	...	15
TOTAL	...	...	...	65

Total number of attendances of all Brighton cases during the year, 353. In addition, attendances were made by 7 new cases belonging to districts outside Brighton; total number of attendances of all cases belonging to districts outside Brighton was 41.

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR BABIES

The Council contributes to the funds of the Chichester Diocesan Moral Welfare Association and in addition contributes to the maintenance of Brighton women and their babies for the necessary duration of their stay in Homes. The Association also provides the services of Social Workers.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

There were twelve infant welfare centres at the end of the year and at eleven, twelve sessions were held each week and at one, one session was held fortnightly.

Analysis of gross attendances:

	Number	Attendances	Average attendance	
			per person	per session
Mothers	2047	21587	11	36
Children 0-12 months	1333	17825	13	} 40
1-5 years	2690	6701	2	

Number of medical consultations given totalled 7,235.

943 children were treated, or referred for treatment or for consultation.

ORTHOPAEDIC SERVICE

Of the 450 children under 5 treated at the Orthopaedic Clinic during the year, 53 were new cases seen by the Surgeon. 194 attendances were made to the Surgeon's Clinic. Six children were admitted to the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore.

HOME VISITING

Home Visits included routine calls on:

Expectant Mothers: first visits	...	...	...	642
total visits	...	...	...	824
Babies under 1 year of age: first visits	...	...	...	2360
total visits	...	...	...	11822
average to each child	...	...	...	5
Children over 1 year old: children visited	...	...	...	7765
total visits	...	...	...	15531

Visits of enquiry were made as follows:

Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	45
Neonatal deaths (i.e. during first month)	...	...	...	...	...	24

PROMOTION OF CLEANLINESS

The Health Visitors note the condition of heads and bodies of all pre-school children. Where necessary advice is given and severe cases of verminous infestation are referred for cleansing. Close co-operation is maintained with the School Health Service and with the Children's Officer.

DENTAL CARE

One session per week was reserved by the Principal School Dental Officer and by each of the four School Dental Officers for the treatment of mothers and children under five years of age.

X-rays are carried out at the School Clinic.

By arrangement a private dental technician supplies dentures as required and the necessary work is carried out in his workshop.

(a) Numbers provided with dental care:

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing mothers	83	83	83	64
Children under five ...	537	131	131	119

(b) Forms of dental treatment provided:

	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Fillings	Scalings and gum treatment	Silver Nitrate treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Radio-graphs	Dentures provided	
								Complete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing mothers	174	11	96	403	—	—	9	24	12
Children under five	137	43	215	230	94	—	—	—	—

DEPRIVED CHILDREN

Close co-operation is maintained with the Children's Officer who notifies the Health Department whenever a deprived child under five is moved to a new address. This enables the Health Visitor to pay routine visits as required for all children of this age group.

Under existing arrangements, visits are paid to establishments where the wellbeing of deprived children is in doubt. Special examinations of children are made at the request of the Children's Officer.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948

There are on the register 2 child minders who for reward are able to receive into their premises 19 children under the age of 5 years to be looked after for the day. No new child minders were approved during the year.

One day nursery is on the register; there were no registrations during the year.

Dr. Morrison paid 5 visits of inspection.

MUNICIPAL DAY NURSERY

The Brighton Corporation maintains the Manor House Day Nursery, where there is accommodation for 12 children from 9 months to 2 years of age and 24 from 2 years to 5 years; during the year the average daily attendance was 20.

Prior to admission the children must be seen by a doctor to ensure that they are free from infection and infestation. For this purpose 48 were seen at the infant welfare centres.

EDUCATION

Fourteen pupil midwives attended infant welfare centres on 5 occasions.

Nineteen students studying for the Health Visitor's Certificate attended maternity and child welfare clinics for practical experience in the work of a health visitor.

Arrangements were made for all students to visit the Ambulance Station, Abattoir, Buckingham House Children's Home, School Clinic, Garton House Diocesan Moral Welfare Home, Chest Clinic, Mental Health Services, Manor House Day Nursery, and the Sanitary Inspector's Office.

NURSING HOMES

The number of nursing homes on the register on 31st December, 1954, was as follows: Maternity homes, nil; other homes, 15; combined maternity and other homes, 3.

All the occupied homes were visited during the year. The 18 on the register contained 7 beds for maternity cases and 249 beds for other cases.

WELFARE FOODS DISTRIBUTION

Fifteen distribution points have been established since June 28th, when the distribution of welfare foods became the responsibility of the local authority. Issues since that date are shown below:

	Issues	Percentage of entitlement taken up
Orange juice, bottles	49,380	29·57
Cod liver oil, bottles	9,913	24·54
A. & D. tablets, packets	3,092	
National dried milk, tins	38,331	

HEALTH VISITORS

This title embodies much of the work of this section of the Health Department already covered by other headings in previous Annual Reports.

The recognition of the Health Visitor as a visitor to the whole family in the interest of promoting and maintaining health, has widened the sphere of her work from mainly Maternity and Child Welfare, to include Care and After Care of the Sick, problems of the Aged and Chronic Sick, and many social problems requiring increased liaison with other members of the health team, such as General Practitioners and Hospital Departments and their staffs and other social workers.

The recent increases in establishment bring individual case loads nearer to workable conditions, but they are still heavy.

During the year, consideration has been given to deployment of staff to make better use of the highly qualified Health Visitor, bearing in mind the need to open extra Child Welfare Clinics on the new housing estates, and the above expanding duties. It seems necessary to allocate more general duties to workers not so well qualified. The acceptance of the principle of the employment of S.R.N. Clinic Nurses to work in some Child Welfare Clinics and Ante-Natal and Contraceptive Clinics was a means to this end.

STAFFING

There are 16 full-time Health Visitors and 1 Superintendent Health Visitor (of these 2 full-time and 1 part-time, are working in the Chest Clinic).

CHANGES DURING 1954

Appointments

Three successful Brighton trained Students were appointed to full-time Health Visiting during 1954:

Resignations

There were two resignations.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Individual talks to Mothers in home and clinic centres and to outside groups, both during and after working hours, continue, and with increasing staff it is hoped to intensify this part of the Health Visitor's work.

Various visual aids are in use—posters and flannel graphs, etc., and a strip film projector has been acquired.

AGED

The problems of the sick and failing old people have called on the time of the Health Visitor in increasing numbers during the year, and more than half of the Superintendent Health Visitor's time has been spent in visiting emergencies and keeping records for this work.

The appointment of a Geriatric Health Visitor is envisaged to co-ordinate the care of the Aged and to investigate the practical ways of prevention of unnecessary suffering, and promoting home care in this group. (This appointment was made in the Spring of 1955).

PROBLEM FAMILIES

Nearly all Health Visitors have problem families in their case loads, and are doing frequent visiting and co-operating with other Departments and Voluntary bodies in continued efforts to rehabilitate and prevent deterioration or break up of family life in these sub-standard homes.

The Superintendent Health Visitor or individual Health Visitors have attended the Co-ordinating Committee working in the interests of these families.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH CIRCULAR 27/54

The appointment of a Health Visitor to do intensified work in this field would be of great value in attaining improvement and rehabilitation in the home.

The case load of families requiring close supervision would then be controlled, by the close link with the District Health Visitor.

Continuity of supervision would be more satisfactory than by giving the responsibility for this work to an individual outside the Health Department staff.

Improvement is usually very slow and backsliding frequent. Contact over a long period is necessary if conditions are to be kept up to a reasonable standard.

TUBERCULOSIS

Two full-time Health Visitors and one part-time Health Visitor have undertaken the work at the Chest Clinic. From a preventive aspect this personnel, manning all Clinic sessions, is insufficient to maintain adequate routine visiting to cases and contacts in their homes or to observe social and housing conditions in the interest of the prevention of tuberculosis and of health education.

HOSPITAL LIAISON

Good relations and frequent contacts have been made in the interest of patients between Health Visitors and Almoners, and weekly visits by Health Visitors have been paid to Children's Hospital at the invitation of the Pediatrician, and also to the Pediatric Clinic of the Sussex Maternity Hospital.

The Almoner of the Geriatric Unit of the Brighton General Hospital is in constant communication with the Superintendent Health Visitor regarding the needs of old people requiring admission or discharge to that Department of the Hospital, and Almoners from all Hospitals contact Health Visitors from time to time regarding known social problems of their patients.

LIAISON WITH G.P's

Individual Health Visitors have made personal and telephone contact with General Practitioners in their area, and some General Practitioners have put social problems of their patients and families to the Health Visitors to investigate. A meeting of General Practitioners and Health Visitors was held at the Health Visitors' Training School in June to discuss how best the services of the Health Visitor could be made available to General Practitioners.

HOUSING

The Health Visitors have continued to submit reports on those housing conditions detrimental to the health of the family to the Deputy Medical Officer of Health who deals with this aspect of Housing Committee work.

TRAINING

Health Visitors have contributed to the training of the Health Visitor Students in arranging practical experience on their districts and in the Clinics. One Health Visitor is on the panel of Lecturers for the Health Visitors' Training.

Two Health Visitors attended Refresher Courses during 1954: one at Oxford and one in Liverpool.

Visits of enquiry were made as follows (see also p. 14):

Hospital follow-up visits	...	...	...	153
Housing problems	...	...	...	149
Aged and chronic sick	...	...	...	271
Other visits	...	...	...	2057

INFANT MORTALITY, 1954—*Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under One Year of Age*

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week		1-2 Weeks		2-3 Weeks		3-4 Weeks		Total under 4 Weeks		1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under one Year
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	F.M.	F.M.	F.M.	F.M.	F.M.	F.M.	F.M.	F.M.	F.M.	F.M.	F.M.	F.
Bronchitis											1											1
Gastro-enteritis and colitis, except ulcerative																			1			2
Congenital malformations	1	3	1						2	3	1		1	1				1				11
Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis	2	2							2	2		1										5
Pneumonia of new-born	2								2													2
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy and immaturity unqualified	10	11							10	11	1											22
Emphysema																					1	1
Lack of care at birth	1								1													1
TOTALS	16	16	1						17	16	1	2	1	2	1	1		1	1		2	45

HOME NURSING

The statutory duty of the Local Health Authority is carried out by the Brighton District Nursing Association (Queen's Nurses).

There were 30 whole-time and 4 part-time nurses.

Total number of cases nursed, 4,719.

Total number of visits made, 116,595 (including 1,264 midwifery and maternity).

385 patients received nursing equipment on loan.

Nineteen students were trained during the year, of whom 10 were for the Brighton area.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

At the end of the year there were 11 ambulances and 9 cars (including 6 utilicons). The staff comprised a Chief Ambulance Officer, Deputy Chief Ambulance Officer, 5 Section Leaders, 25 Driver/attendants, 1 Leading Woman driver, 4 Women drivers, and 4 Clerk/telephonists.

	Ambulances	Sitting-case cars	Total
Mileage	115,247	165,035	280,282
Patients conveyed:			
Accident and emergency	2,103	513	2,616
Others	15,722	42,334	58,056
Deceased persons and non-patients conveyed (including daily conveyance of handicapped children who were included as patients in 1953)	71	1,582	1,653
Journeys:			
Patient carrying	8,202	7,176	15,378
Abortive and service, etc.	408	1,071	1,479

Arrangements were made for the conveyance of 557 patients by rail, an average of 74 miles per patient, thus ensuring a swift and comfortable journey for the patient and at the same time effecting a considerable saving in costs.

In addition the Hospital Car Service was requested to carry 495 patients; the number of journeys was 288 and the mileage 5,696; there were 18 drivers on the register.

The average mileage per patient carried was: (a) Ambulances, 6; (b) Sitting-case cars, 4; (c) Hospital Car Service, 12.

PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

TUBERCULOSIS:	Deaths 1954	Rate per 100,000	No. of New Cases 1954	Rate per 100,000
Pulmonary tuberculosis	30	19.00	177	112.09
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	2	1.27	8	5.07
All forms	32	20.27	185	117.16

The number of deaths for the year is the lowest recorded for the County Borough of Brighton.

The following table gives the number of primary notifications and other new cases which came to notice otherwise than by formal notification; also deaths from all forms of the disease.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Other		Pulmonary		Other	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 4	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
5- 9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-14	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
15-19	13	9	1	—	1	—	—	—
20-24	11	15	1	—	—	—	—	—
25-34	15	16	1	1	—	1	—	—
35-44	18	4	—	—	2	2	—	1
45-54	18	7	1	—	5	—	—	1
55-64	12	8	—	—	6	2	—	—
65 and upwards	14	6	—	—	10	1	—	—
Totals	107	70	5	3	24	6	—	2

Nineteen of the total of the 32 deaths occurred in hospital, of whom eleven died in Brighton hospitals and eight in other hospitals.

11,581 persons were examined at the Clinic during the year, of which 2,021 were new attendances.

186 patients were visited in their own homes and in hospital during the year.

7,358 artificial pneumothorax refills were done during the year.

Although some cases are found to have advanced disease on first examination, on the whole patients tend to present themselves for examination and treatment at an earlier stage than a few years ago.

602 new contacts to cases of tuberculosis were examined during the year; of these, 7 were found to need institutional treatment on first examination. It is necessary to keep contacts under observation for several years, and 1,638 old contact cases were examined during the year.

1,429 school children of all ages were examined during the year in the schools by means of X-ray and skin test. Of these 223 were found to have positive skin tests, but none was found to be in need of treatment.

The Ministry of Health directs that B.C.G. Vaccination should be offered to tuberculin-negative contacts of cases and a total of 246 vaccinations were made during the year. B.C.G. Vaccination has been readily taken up and many requests for its use are made.

The Mass Radiography Unit operated for several months during the year. Many cases have been referred to the Chest Clinic from the Unit. This service is of great value as, apart from the cases found to be in actual need of treatment, it brings to light hidden sources of infection which would otherwise remain unknown.

Many cases and their families have been rehoused during the year, and considerable assistance has been rendered by the Housing Committee, under difficult conditions.

Home Visits by Health Visitors:

Primary visits	...	...	...	...	213
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	1,511
Special visits	...	...	...	...	577
Total: 2,301					

Home Nursing by Queen's Nurses of the Brighton District Nursing Association:

				No. of patients	No. of visits
Pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	...	167	5,843
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	...	8	447
Total				175	6,290

Assistance from Hedgcock Bequest:

	£	s.	d.
Milk	482	9	10
Assistance towards cost of laundering clothing ...	10	4	0
Assistance towards cost of clothing	26	7	1
Assistance towards cost of removals	12	2	6
Assistance towards arrears of electricity account ...	5	19	2
Assistance towards cost of night attendant	15	0	
Assistance towards arrears of rent	3	17	3
Assistance towards cost of furniture	8	5	0
Assistance towards cost of bedding	9	5	5
Maintenance in orphanage... ..	8	17	1
	£568	2	4

Convalescence

We are responsible for the maintenance of 1 tuberculous case at Papworth Village Settlement and 2 at the British Legion Village, Maidstone. 29 other tuberculous cases were assisted in the home.

Travelling assistance

Assistance towards the cost of rail fares to visit relatives in hospital was granted to 22 new cases; altogether 31 cases were helped.

Occupational therapy

An occupational therapy workroom was opened on 3rd March for tuberculous cases. One session per week is held and 31 cases made 477 attendances at the 43 sessions held during the year.

OTHER DISEASES

Convalescence

A period of convalescence, usually two weeks, was agreed for 28 cases.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

ADMINISTRATION

Health Services Sub-Committee

The Sub-Committee consists of 11 members, being His Worship the Mayor (*ex officio*), the Chairman of the Health Committee, together with 7 other members of the Council and 2 co-opted members, including a local general practitioner. Meetings are held at monthly intervals.

Number and qualifications of Staff

Psychiatric Advisor: Dr. W. McCartan, M.D. (Belf.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H., D.P.M., Physician Superintendent, St. Francis Hospital, Haywards Heath; Executive Officer; 3 Authorised Officers; 1 Mental Deficiency Visitor (female) and 2 Clerical Assistants. Two officers hold the Relieving Officers' Certificate.

Co-ordination of Services

The co-ordination of services between the mental hospital, mental deficiency institutions, and the local health authority is utilized to the fullest extent. The Psychiatric Social Worker of the mental hospital attends the Clinic attached to the mental health office at regular intervals. The duties of visitation of patients on licence from mental deficiency institutions is carried out, and, as and where requested, assistance is provided in the supervision of patients on trial from mental hospitals.

Delegation of Duties

With the exception of the administration of the occupation centres for mental defectives and the domiciliary handicraft care for the mentally handicapped, the whole of the work required of local health authorities in the mental health field is performed by the authority's own officers.

WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE COMMUNITY

Prevention, Care and After-Care

The Mental Health Service operates from the Herbert Hone Clinic, which incorporates in addition to the administrative offices the Child Guidance Clinic, Adult Psycho-Therapy and Follow-up Clinics. The Psychiatric Advisor holds special clinics for adult delinquency, preventive care and after-care, including cases referred by the Ministry of Labour, the National Assistance Board, and Probation Officers.

A weekly out-patients clinic mostly for cases of neurosis and psychosis is held by the Physician Superintendent of St. Francis' Hospital, at the Brighton General Hospital, by arrangement with the Brighton & Lewes Hospital Management Committee. When it is deemed more advisable in the interest of the patient for the interview to be held elsewhere than at a hospital this type of case is seen at the Herbert Hone Clinic.

A follow-up clinic is held weekly at the Herbert Hone Clinic, by a psychiatrist from the staff of St. Francis' Hospital.

After-care services are provided for cases of neurosis and psychosis discharged from H.M. Forces.

The following are examples of the work done:

Mr. R. M., aged 60. Referred to Mental Health Service suffering from asthma, nervous and mental disability. Stated that it was difficult for his wife, who was suffering from rheumatoid arthritis, to look after him. He had received mental hospital treatment. When seen by the Duly Authorised Officer he looked pale and had lost considerable weight. Patient was an ex-serviceman and the British Legion was contacted and arranged for patient's

prolonged convalescent treatment. His family doctor concurring, arrangements were also made through the British Legion for patient's wife also to have a period of convalescent treatment.

Mr. W. A., aged 37, single. An ex-serviceman who had since 1950 suffered from mental instability and had two periods of mental hospital treatment. Through the Ex-Serviceman's Welfare Department arrangements were made whereby he received a period of hospital treatment followed by training at a rehabilitation centre.

Mrs. A. C., aged 64, widow. On account of the patient's mental condition it was found necessary for her to be admitted as a voluntary patient. She had been extremely worried about conditions of her accommodation. Arrangements were made for her home to be re-decorated for her return from hospital.

Miss M. R., aged 33, single. Information was received that this patient was possibly suicidal. When interviewed it was found that she had come to Brighton to take up a post but on the first day she had fainted and lost the job. She had no funds and was expecting to be turned out of her accommodation. It was felt that the solution in her case was to return her to her mother, whose home was in the Midlands. Arrangements were made, her fare and subsistence provided, and she was returned to her home.

Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930

The total number of cases dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts was 1,028; of these 619 cases were admitted to the Observation Ward, Brighton General Hospital, under Section 20 of the Lunacy Act, 1890.

During the twelve months under review, the admissions to mental hospitals, either direct from their homes or after a period of observation were:—

Voluntary patients	...	...	396
Temporary patients	...	...	6
Certified patients	...	...	150
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	552
			<hr/>

Of the total admissions to the Observation Ward, 251 cases were admitted by the Duly Authorised Officers of the East Sussex Local Health Authority, but the disposal of such cases is, by agreement, performed by the Brighton Duly Authorised Officers.

General

The administrative staff interviewed 2,834 persons at the Clinic and 2,551 at home or elsewhere. These figures include the visiting of mental defectives under supervision, under guardianship, on licence from institutions as well as visits for special reports for the visiting justices and the like; also included are the visits for preventive and after-care purposes under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

During the twelve months, duly authorised officers received 193 calls to cases after normal office hours, from local practitioners, the police and hospitals.

The duly authorised officers, in addition to their statutory duties, also visit mental defectives (males) under guardianship in situations, remove all male patients to institutions. They act as petitions officers under the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913.

Until the services of a full-time psychiatric social worker are secured, social histories, visits of a preventive nature, and after-care, are performed by these officers.

Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38

Close co-operation is maintained with local medical practitioners, hospitals, etc., to assist wherein cases of sub-normal young children are found. The certifying medical officer is immediately notified of such cases for examination to assess whether they should be dealt with under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

During the year 22 cases were ascertained and found subject to be dealt with, the notification being received from the sources as shown hereunder:

Education Authority under Section 57 (3) of Education Act, 1944 (children under age of 16 years)	5
Education Authority under Section 57 (5) of Education Act, 1944 (children upon leaving special school)	10
Other sources, including Moral Welfare Association, medical practitioners, other authorities, and relatives	7

These cases, after investigation, were dealt with as follows:

Placed under supervision in own home	10
„ „ guardianship	2
„ in institutions	5
Removed from area, prior to any action being taken ...	1
Pending action	4

The names of 15 cases have been removed from the Register during the past twelve months for the following reasons:

Discharged from institutions	2
„ „ guardianship	1
Released from supervision	4
Removed from Brighton to other areas	3
Admitted to mental hospital	1
Died	4

Cases on Register

The number of cases on the register at the end of the year is set out hereunder:

	Males	Females	Total
In institutions	143	76	219
Under guardianship	17	26	43
„ supervision	130	94	224
Awaiting action	4	1	5
	294	197	491

Institutional Accommodation

The number of cases waiting admission to institutions was 25 compared with 23 at the end of the previous year. It must be pointed out however that 10 cases which were included in the total figure for the first time are cases in which there is no immediate urgency arising for a bed, but are classified as long-term policy cases. A true picture of the comparative position shows a considerable decrease (8) during the year.

The reduction in the numbers waiting for urgent beds was brought about in a great measure by the opening of additional wards at Hill House Hospital, Rye, whereby seven children were allocated beds. Some of these children had been on the waiting list for several years.

During the year 17 cases were admitted to institutions, including the 7 children referred to in the last paragraph, compared with a total of 7 admissions in the previous year.

The need for beds is still in excess of the number which become available but it would appear that in a comparison with other local health authorities, this authority have one of the shortest waiting lists.

Guardianship and Supervision

The number of cases under guardianship remains very much the same; during the year one case was discharged having proved himself capable of managing his own affairs. Two girls were placed under guardianship in a convent.

Now that the National Assistance Board accept liability for assisting mental defectives over the age of 16 years residing in their own homes the need for placing such cases under the guardianship of their relatives in order to permit the local health authority to make grants of financial aid does not arise.

There is regular visiting of cases both by lay staff and medical practitioners.

The number of cases on the register remains practically unchanged but four cases who had proved their ability to manage their own affairs were released from supervision.

Regular visitation is made to the cases and advice is given on matters appertaining to the well-being of the patients. When necessary, help is given to parents in the control of the difficult cases, guidance as to making application for financial assistance in cases where the patient is unemployable and also as to obtaining exemption from National Insurance.

Occupation and Training

All cases deemed suitable for attendance at an occupation centre are offered the opportunity of attending the centres maintained by the Guardianship Society at the Grace Eyre Woodhead Memorial, Old Shoreham Road, Hove. A per capita grant is made to the Society for the Brighton cases. The junior centre is a full-time one and the children attending are provided with meals and milk. The cost of meals is shared between the parents and the local health authority on the same basis as the school meals to ordinary schools.

The conveyance of the children to and from the centre is carried out by a special bus which meets the children and returns them to appointed picking up points throughout the town.

The senior centres are on a part-time basis, the majority of the cases are capable of going to and from centre unaccompanied. Whenever necessary financial assistance is granted with the cost of bus fares.

The number of cases attending at the end of the Christmas term was 21 children and 13 adults. Several other cases also attended for various periods during the year but were found unsuitable or withdrawn by the parents. In this connection it is pointed out that attendance at the centre is not compulsory and that cases only attend when the parents are willing to co-operate.

GENERAL.

The number of adult cases under supervision in their own homes and who are in gainful employment continues to be satisfactory. The Employment Bureaux are very helpful in the finding of work for mental defectives. As it will no doubt be appreciated it is not an easy task for the officers of the Bureau to find jobs for subnormal persons and often prejudices have to be overcome by perseverance and patience. I should like to place on record this appreciation of the co-operation of the officers of the Youth Employment Bureau and of the Employment Exchange.

The visiting of cases out on licence from various institutions and colonies is carried out on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board. Some institutions prefer to undertake the visitation by their own officers. I am of the opinion that it is a far better for the local health authority to perform this duty. My opinion is based on the fact that when a case is being visited by an institution's

Officer with no local connections or powers and any difficulty arises or help is needed, neither the patient nor the person with whom he or she is residing have a local contact. Far more benefit is derived from an immediate personal interview than by having to write to an officer and wait a reply.

During the twelve months under review 4 Petitions for Orders and 10 applications for Varying Orders have been presented on behalf of other local health authorities, these Orders are in respect to cases who have been placed in homes in Brighton under the auspices of the Guardianship Society. Under the knock for knock scheme no charge is made to the local authorities for the performance of these duties.

BRIGHTON CORPORATION WATERWORKS

MR. F. N. GREEN, B.Sc., A.C.G.I., A.M.Inst.C.E., A.M.Inst.W.E., F.G.S.,
Waterworks Engineer

1. The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quantity and in quality.

2. Bacteriological examinations of both raw and treated waters were made at weekly intervals in the Department's laboratory except in certain instances where bacterial pollution was present in the raw waters, when samples of both raw and chloraminated waters were examined daily. The total number of raw and treated water samples examined from each of the Pumping Stations, together with a summary of the bacteriological results obtained, is given below.

Number of Samples Examined	No. showing presence of Coliform Organisms in 100 ml. or less	No. showing presence of Faecal Coli in 100 ml. or less	No. showing Coliform Organisms absent from 100 ml.
1,038	129	59	909

Colony counts on Agar at 22° and 37°C. on the raw waters showed some variation throughout the year but were mainly of a low order. The ten samples of chloraminated water from Falmer and Mile Oak Pumping Stations showing evidence of bacterial pollution did not at any time indicate inefficient sterilisation of the raw waters.

General chemical analyses of the raw waters have been carried out frequently during the year. The results of chemical analyses are given below expressed in parts per million.

	Balsdean	Falmer	Patcham	Goldstone	Mile Oak	Shoreham
Date taken	30.11.54	30.11.54	30.11.54	29.11.54	29.11.54	29.11.54
Colour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Turbidity	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear
Taste	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Odour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
pH	7.35	7.40	7.30	7.35	7.30	7.40
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	157.5	189.5	162.5	181.5	171.0	178.5
Chloride (Cl)	29.0	24.0	20.0	30.0	22.5	30.0
Free Ammonia (N)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.004
Alb. Ammonia (N.)	0.014	0.014	0.012	0.011	0.012	0.015
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	3.4	5.0	3.95	7.1	4.5	5.5
Oxygen Absorbed	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.16	0.16
Nitrite Nitrogen (N)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Temp. Hardness	157.5	189.5	162.5	181.5	171.0	178.5
Perm. Hardness	34.5	46.8	36.0	64.5	51.0	46.5
Total Hardness	192.0	236.3	198.5	246.0	222.0	225.0

In addition to the foregoing, 1,761 daily samples from taps at fixed points on the district have been examined bacteriologically, the results of which have shown the chloraminated waters going to supply to be of the highest standard of purity.

Bacteriological examinations have also been carried out on 326 samples of water from service reservoirs.

A total number of 3,207 samples of water have been examined in the Department's laboratory during the year.

3. Since all of the water is obtained from the chalk, there is little likelihood of any plumbo-solvent action, and no evidence of such action is apparent.

4. Chlorination, with post-ammoniation, of all raw waters is practised continuously, and surveys of the catchment area are regularly carried out. In the event of a raw water showing evidence of bacterial pollution, such surveys are intensified and appropriate adjustments of chlorine and ammonia dosage are made. In addition, bacteriological examination of the raw and chloraminated waters is carried out at daily intervals.

5. The number of the population supplied from public water mains direct to the houses is 281,000 and the number of services in use is 91,676. No supplies by standpipe are in use.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

I am indebted to Mr. R. S. Cross, F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A., Chief Sanitary Inspector, for the following information.

In the following tables the work of the Sanitary Inspectors is stated, as far as possible, in tabular form:

SANITARY INSPECTION

Inspections for 1954

Nature of Inspections

Houses under the Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	8,526
Houses under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	2,262
Section 60 P.H.A. 1936 (fire escapes)	...	...	...	...	60
Abattoir for meat inspection (full days)	...	...	...	...	120
Animals, accumulations, etc.	...	...	...	...	165
Offensive trades	...	...	...	...	54
Drainage	...	...	...	...	572
Noise nuisance	...	...	...	...	53
Premises other than houses	...	...	...	...	163
Infectious disease investigations	...	...	...	...	2,918
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	49
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	274
Schools	...	...	...	...	36
Nursing homes	...	...	...	...	15
Smoke abatement	...	...	...	...	55
Tents, vans, sheds	...	...	...	...	26
Swimming baths	...	...	...	...	100
Water supply	...	...	...	...	53
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	136
Sampling	...	...	...	...	4,601
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926	...	...	...	...	29
Merchandise Marks Act, 1926	...	...	...	...	326
National Assistance Act, 1948	...	...	...	...	151
Pet Animals Act, 1951	...	...	...	...	64
Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933...	...	...	...	...	109
Rag Flock Act, 1951	...	...	...	...	15
Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	55
Interviews: owners, etc.	...	...	...	...	1,783
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1,858

The sanitary inspections enumerated in the preceding table have been followed by the serving of notices given in the next table. A large proportion of the work is done as a result of verbal recommendations or preliminary notices.

<i>Defects</i>							<i>No. of notices served</i>
To remedy defective drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	112
To repair roofs, walls, seats or doors of W.C's	...	...	...	...	...	...	203
To pave or re-pave yards, sculleries, or forecourts	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
To remove accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
To provide new dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	181
To repair roofs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	395
To hack off defective external plastering of walls and re-render	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
To repair walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
To repair or provide rain-water guttering or piping	...	...	...	...	...	...	237
To repair defective chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
To renew or repair and paint window-frames and sashes...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
To make windows open for ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
To fix air bricks in front and back walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
To provide sashlines	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
To lay new board floors and provide ventilation under same	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
To repair flooring of rooms and staircases, baluster-rails, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
To repair internal plastering of walls or ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	...	227
To repair fire grates	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
To supply new scullery sink with lead waste pipe...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
To renew, repair, or lengthen waste pipes of sinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
To remedy other defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	118
Number of sewer defects found and made good	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
To provide new w.c. pan, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	41

Legal proceedings were instituted, under Section 94 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in two cases where Abatement Notices had not been complied with. In one case the necessary works were done between the laying of the information and the date of hearing; the summons was withdrawn. In the other case the owner was fined £5 and costs were awarded against him. An order was made for the repairs to be carried out within 28 days.

Under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, and Section 101 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, proceedings were taken against the manager of a butcher's firm and the firm's van-driver for conveying uncovered meat in an unclean vehicle. The defendants were found guilty and fines to a total of £16 were imposed. Costs of £4 2s. 0d. were awarded to the Corporation.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

Two operators are employed full-time on this work and two men are employed part-time on rodent control and part-time on disinfestation work.

The normal sewer maintenance treatments were carried out during the year and the block control system used in all appropriate cases.

Total complaints investigated (primary visits)	...	...	...	...	...	...	776
Total visits made for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,036
Total premises treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	633
Survey visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,830

VERMIN DISINFESTATION

321 visits were made to verminous premises by the disinfestation staff. 170 rooms, in 92 houses, were disinfested. Fees amounting to £180 13s. 6d. were received in respect of the treatments.

HOUSING

Number of houses completed during 1954.

Private builders completed 372 dwellings, one block of 16 flats and converted 8 houses into 26 flats.

The Corporation completed 563 houses and flats.

REQUISITIONING

Number of requisitioned premises	...	...	...	...	107
Families accommodated	...	...	...	...	319
Number of persons housed	...	...	adults 443;	children 288	

HOUSING TABLES REQUIRED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	3,841
(2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under preceding sub-heading) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	565
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	922

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	872
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS

A.—*Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:—			
(a) by owners	...	...	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	Nil

B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	372
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:—			
(a) by owners	...	...	208
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	Nil

C.—*Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	5
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	2

D.—*Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	10
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	1

THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION OF ACTS RELATING TO SHOPS, FACTORIES,
WORKPLACES, BAKEHOUSES, AND OUTWORKERS

<i>Factories Act, 1937</i>		VISITS AND INSPECTIONS					
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,086
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	127
NOTICES SERVED							
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1)	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Unreasonable temperature (Sec. 3)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Inadequate ventilation (Sec. 4)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Insufficient sanitary conveniences (Sec. 7)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Sanitary conveniences not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
<i>Shops Act, 1950</i>							
Visits, inspections and interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,461
Visits under Section 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,400
Visits under Sections 2 to 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,050
Visits under Part IV	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,060
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	129
Visits under Young Persons Employment Act, 1938	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
NOTICES SERVED							
Section 1—Shops failing to close on weekly half-holidays	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
„ 2—Shops failing to observe hours of closing	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ 12—Mobile shops, hawkers and stallholders warned	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
„ 13—Shops where several trades or businesses are carried on failing to observe the conditions prescribed	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
„ 17—Shopkeepers failing to give statutory weekly half- holidays to assistants	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ 19—Shopkeepers failing to provide intervals for meals	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ 22—Shopkeepers failing to give compensatory holidays in respect of Sunday employment	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
„ 37—Shopkeepers failing to provide seats for female assist- ants	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ 38—Shopkeepers failing to provide suitable washing facilities	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
„ 38—Shopkeepers failing to provide suitable facilities for assistants taking meals on the premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ 47—Shopkeepers failing to close their shops on Sunday...	...	...	...	...	...	...	164
Warnings and notices issued in respect of non- compliance with various requirements of the Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	783
Children and Young Persons Act, 1933. Reports on street- trading and Sunday employment	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Reports to Sanitary Inspectors	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Copies of Orders made under the Act served on occupiers	...	...	...	...	...	...	212

Legal Proceedings

Proceedings were instituted under the Shops Act, 1950, against 12 shop keepers and one other person.

Fines of £1, £3 and £10 were imposed for failure to comply with Section 1.

Failure to comply with the requirements of Section 47 resulted in one fine of £1, five of £2, one of £3, and one of £8.

A person occupying premises registered under Section 53 of the Act was fined £1 for conducting the trade or business of a hairdresser on the Jewish Sabbath. For aiding and abetting in this offence an assistant was fined £1.

Applications and Petitions

Three Orders were made under Section 42 of the Act in respect of Exhibitions held at the Dome and Corn Exchange. An Order was made under Sections 40/41 for the benefit of Fruiterers, Florists and Greengrocers in a specified area.

An Order was made suspending the obligations to close for a weekly half-holiday during two weeks prior to Christmas.

One application was received from a person of the Jewish religion to be registered under Section 53 of the Act.

Theatres and Cinemas

346 visits were made to places of public entertainment during the year. Minor defects or contraventions of the licensing conditions were dealt with by informal action and verbal notices at the time of inspection.

Wide screens, with varying aspect ratios, have been installed in a number of cinemas during the year. This gave rise to a problem regarding possible eyestrain in cinemas as the old regulations were drawn up to deal with straight screens and a straightforward method of projection. The new screens are curved in varying degrees making a standard measurement impossible. The problem is a national one and a Special Committee has been set up by the Illuminating Engineering Society to investigate the matter in the light of recent developments. The interim recommendation of this Committee has been applied to the cinemas concerned and the licensees have been required to ensure that all seats not in conformity with existing regulations shall not be occupied by children. In every case the annual licence has been granted without prejudice to any future requirements that the Council may impose as a result of consideration of the Society's future recommendations.

Complaints were received early in the year as to the condition and structure of an underground room used as a dance club. An inspection revealed that ventilation was practically non-existent and that the means of escape in case of fire were so inadequate as to constitute a real danger to persons using the premises. A notice was served under Section 59 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the provision of additional means of egress. No works were carried out and, after legal action, the Magistrate's Court granted an order closing the room for public use. The owner's appeal to Quarter Sessions was disallowed and costs were awarded against him. The club has not been used since the Order was made.

FOOD

The following visits were made to premises where food is prepared, stored, or sold:

Bakehouses	267	Restaurants, Cafes, Snack Bars	489
Dairies/Milkshops	617	Catering Licence applications	34
Food-Preparing Premises	274	Visits for condemnation of unfit foodstuffs	309
Ice Cream Premises	458	Visits under Labelling of Food Order	13
Markets/Cold Stores	82	Visits under Public Health (Meat) Regulations	129
Butchers	139	Visits under Damage by Pests Act	33
Fried Fish Shops	68	Miscellaneous	368
Hotels	32		
Licensed Premises	140		
Mobile Food Shops and Hawkers' barrows	33		
Race-Course Food Premises	96		
Retail Food Shops	1,083		

NOTICES SERVED

Food-preparing Premises

To cleanse rooms and yards	38
To provide ventilation	15
To provide washing facilities	61
To cleanse and repair floors	23
To cleanse and repair walls and ceilings	49
To provide constant hot water	110
To provide intervening ventilated space to W.C's	2
To cleanse apparatus, equipment, and utensils	38
To provide protected food display and storage facilities	42
Miscellaneous	11

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Milk

Samples analysed: formal, 34; informal, 220.

Samples were taken on one occasion to represent a cross section of a particular dairy's milk supply. Thirty samples were reported as being below the legal standards. The overall figures for the consignment were satisfactory but a number of the churns were unlabelled. The facts were reported to the Area Milk Officer who was asked to take action to ensure that the provisions of the Milk Regulations, 1949, were observed in the surrounding districts.

When 12 deficient results were obtained from one producer, "appeal to the cow" samples were taken immediately. In each case the "appeal" samples were below legal standards. The County Milk Production Officer was, therefore, asked to investigate the feeding and milking arrangements of the herd concerned.

Samples of food and drugs other than milk

Aspirin	1	Dripping	1	Plurivite	1
Butter	5	Frankfurters	2	Phensic	1
Bee Pee Sweets	1	Fish paste	1	Sliced bread and butter	2
Beans and sausages (tinned)	1	Flour	12	Soft drinks... ..	10
Bread	1	Flavouring essences	8	Sausages	5
Brine	1	Fruit (tinned)	10	Sulphur tablets	1
Baking powder	1	Ground rice	2	Sweets and chocolates	10
Candied peel	3	Gin	1	Salad cream	1
Christmas pudding	1	Gee's linctus	1	Saccharin	1
Coffee	6	Herbs	1	Salt	1
Cascara	2	Ice cream	26	Soup (tinned)	9
Cream	14	Indigestion tablets	2	Suet	2
Custard powder	1	Iced lollies	13	Tonic tablets	1
Cooking fat	2	Jellies	6	Vinegar	4
Cakes	1	Margarine	17	Vegetables (tinned)	5
Cooked meat	2	Mineral oil	1	Whelks	2
Curry powder	1	Preserves	20		
		Pepper	3		

A sample of ice cream was found to be 18% deficient in fat content. The factory proprietor was interviewed and his production methods checked in detail. Subsequent samples were satisfactory.

A bottle of wheelks, with an extremely high acid content, was the subject of a complaint. On inspection of the producer's premises it was found that the vinegar used was not sufficiently diluted. The fault was corrected immediately.

Three samples of pork sausages and one sample of beef sausages were reported by the Public Analyst as being deficient in meat content. In the Analyst's opinion this should have been at least 65% in the pork sausages and 50% in the beef sausages. The facts were reported to the Town Clerk's Department for the institution of legal proceedings but this Department was told that in the absence of a definite legal standard prosecution was inadvisable.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

Eighteen samples were taken, 6 of feeding stuffs and 12 fertilisers.

Of the fertilisers one was reported as being deficient in potash 1.4%; one having an excess sol. phosphoric acid 1% and excess insol. phosphoric acid 0.9%; one deficient in sol. phosphuric acid 5.6%; one deficient in insol. phosphuric acid 4.8%; and one having an excess of insol. phosphuric acid 1%. Of the feeding stuffs one was reported as being deficient in oil 2.2% and deficient in phosphoric acid 1.8%; and one deficient in albuminoid 7.4%.

In each case the manufacturers were advised of the variations, but in view of the small percentage of discrepancies found no legal action was taken.

SAMPLES SUBMITTED TO BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Nature of Article	Number Examined	Found Satisfactory	Found Unsatisfactory	Remarks
Pasteurised Milk	200	198	2	All samples were bottled on farms outside the Borough. Every case was referred to the County Milk Production Officer for investigation.
Pasteurised (Channel Island) Milk	85	84	1	
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	171	166	5	
T.T. (Pasteurised) Channel Island Milk	58	57	1	
Sterilised Milk ...	71	71	0	
Tuberculin Tested Milk	34	33	1	
Tuberculin Tested (Channel Island) Milk	291	276	15	
Churn Rinses ...	34	31	3	
Bottle rinses ...	257	257	0	
Water	41	41	0	
Ice Cream	87	69	18	
				69 in Grades I and II 11 in Grade III 7 in Grade IV

Keeping qualities of milk

The investigation into the keeping qualities of the milk supplies coming into the Borough has been continued. 2,433 samples were taken from supplies of T.T. and ungraded milk prior to pasteurisation. Of 1,237 ungraded samples 430 failed to pass the methylene blue test; 171 out of 1,196 samples of T.T. milk failed the test.

The results were brought to the notice of the County Milk Production Officer for investigation. The ready co-operation of these officers is extremely valuable to the Department and is greatly appreciated.

EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI

43 samples of milk were submitted for biological examination. Three of the inoculated guinea-pigs died prematurely, nullifying the tests and all the remaining samples were reported as negative for tubercle bacilli.

In one sample *Brucella Abortus* was isolated. The report was passed to the Medical Officer of Health for the district in which the producer's dairy was situated and immediate clinical examinations of the herd were made by the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

WATER SUPPLY

During the year 41 samples of water were taken and all of them proved satisfactory.

SWIMMING BATHS

177 samples of water were taken from swimming baths and paddling pools in the Borough.

49 results were unsatisfactory, 28 from swimming baths and 21 from paddling pools.

As a result of these unsatisfactory samples representations have been made to the responsible authorities and it is hoped that equipment more capable of retaining a satisfactory standard will be installed before the commencement of the next season.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS

15 samples of filling materials were taken during the year.

A sample of feathers was the only one which proved unsatisfactory.

The Health Department of the Metropolitan Borough concerned was asked to take up the matter with the supplies, whose factory was in their area.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIR

For the Ministry of Food:

Cattle, 5,659; Calves, 1,610; Sheep, 14,474; Pigs, 5,924.

For Private Individuals:

Cattle, 6,716; Calves, 4,540; Sheep, 16,470; Pigs, 13,235.

	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number inspected... ..	12,375	6,150	30,944	19,159
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis:</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	12	25	15	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5,025	40	2,297	3,046
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	40.70	1.06	7.47	15.97
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	38	12	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,578	1	—	356
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	13.06	0.21	—	1.87

Average number of Animals Slaughtered per Working Day during 1954

	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
Number of Working Days ...	27	33	51	52	52	51	47
Beasts	16	50	71	51	40	29	14
Calves	1	8	52	29	33	7	2
Sheep	14	64	105	143	131	124	43
Pigs	7	39	63	85	94	74	36

Total weight of edible meat and offal condemned at the Abattoir during 1954:
99 tons 14 cwts. 2 qtrs. 21¼ lbs.

FOODSTUFFS SURRENDERED FROM MARKETS AND SHOPS
FOR CONDEMNATION

Baby food	19 tins	Chocolate rolls	22
Bacon	1,192⅔ lbs.	Christmas pudding	7 tins
Barley crystals	46 tins	Chicken	349½ lbs.
Bath chaps	7	Coffee	2½ lbs.
Beef	109 lbs.	Cookeen	½ lb.
Biscuits	2 lbs.	Cordials	2 botts.
Bournvita	3 tins	Corned beef	8 lbs.
Breakfast fry	43 pkts.	Cream	32 tins
Butter	12½ lbs.	Cocoa	1 tin
Cake	65 lbs.	Cocoanut	70¾ lbs.
Cake mixture	8 pkts.	Confectionary	133 lbs.
Cereals	56 pkts.	Custard	2 pkts.
Cheese	181¼ lbs.	Dates	15 pkts.
Cheese (processed)	2,512 pkts.	Eggs	23 doz.
Chocolate dessert	1 pkt.	Egg powder	46 lbs.
Chocolate spread... ..	1 ctn.	Fish (tinned)	702 tins

Fish (dried)	397½ stones	Peanut butter	3 jars
Fish (wet)	4,007¼ „	Pepper	4 pkts.
Fishcakes	64 lbs.	Pickles	59 jars
Shellfish	189 stones	Pig's heads	522 lbs.
Figs	5 pkts.	Preserves	449 tins
Flavouring	18 pkts.	Pies	10
Flour	23 lbs.	Puddings	37 tins
Fruit	1,043 tins	Pudding mixture	84 pkts.
Fruit, dried	82½ lbs.	Raisins	26 lbs.
Fruit juice	32 tins	Rabbit	108 lbs.
Gelatine	33 pkts.	Rice	23½ pkts.
Gravy powder	36 pkts.	Salad cream	1 jar
Ham (tinned)	1,476 lbs.	Salt	3 pkts.
Ham	251½ lbs.	Sauce	13 botts.
Honey	5 jars	Sausage meat	55 lbs.
Horseradish	23 jars	Sausages	1,752 lbs.
Jelly	2 pkts.	Shrimps	720 jars
Jellied veal	16¼ lbs.	Soup	277 tins
Luncheon meat	7 lbs.	Soup squares	79 pkts.
Lentils	28 lbs.	Spaghetti	57 tins
Macaroni	1 pkt.	Sugar	8 lbs.
Macaroni	1 tin	Syrup	5 tins
Margarine	3 lbs.	Sultanas	22 lbs.
Meat	2,173 lbs.	Sandwich spread... ..	2 jars
Milk	1,664 tins	Squash	4 botts.
Milk (dried)	56 lbs.	Tomato juice	4 tins
Marzipan	78 pkts.	Tapioca	58 lbs.
Morfat	1 tin	Tea cakes	154
Mincemeat	35 lbs.	Tongue	8¼ lbs.
Paste	65 jars	Vegetables	2,541 tins
Paynes poppets	11 boxes	Vinegar	2 botts.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

One hundred and thirty seven visits were made to butchers' shops and wholesale meat stalls for the examination and condemnation, where necessary, of unsound home-killed and imported meat, and canned meats.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Thirty-one slaughtermen were holding licences from the County Borough on 31st December, 1954.

Tuberculosis Order of 1938

Under the above Order, ten premises were reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, as a result of finding congenital tuberculosis in twelve calves, two of which were unidentifiable. As a consequence of visits and inspections of the herds involved, seven cows were destroyed. Two investigations proved negative and the dam of one calf could not be traced.

Upon post-mortem examination, six cows were found to be affected with advanced tuberculosis within the meaning of the Order whilst the other cow had tuberculosis, but not in the advanced stage.

Anthrax Order of 1938

Two premises, where the sudden death of an animal had occurred, were declared to be Infected Places within the meaning of this Order. In both instances the carcasses were cremated, the premises disinfected and laboratory investigations were carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Anthrax was not confirmed in either case.

Sheep Scab Order of 1938

One notification of intention to dip sheep was notified and arrangements were made for a Police Officer to be present at the sheep dipping to ensure that the requirements of the above-mentioned Order were complied with.

Swine Fever Order of 1938

Eight cases of suspect Swine Fever were reported to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Investigations involving post-mortem examinations of pigs that had died on small-holdings were carried out and one outbreak of Swine Fever was confirmed.

Regulation of Movement of Swine Order of 1954

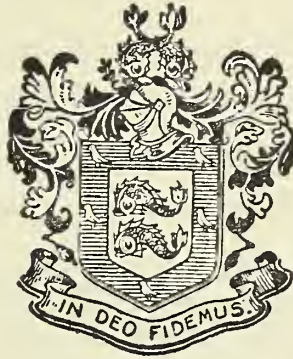
All swine arriving on premises in the County Borough were visited by Police Officers during the prescribed detention period. Twelve visits were made by the Inspector of the Local Authority, on request, because of suspicious illness, and nine pigs were slaughtered at the Public Abattoir within the prescribed period.

Legal proceedings were taken against a pig-keeper for failing to comply with a condition of a Movement Licence. The pig-keeper was found guilty and fined 20/-.

Foot and Mouth (Infected and Controlled Areas) Orders of 1938

The County Borough of Brighton this year was not included in either an Infected Area or a Controlled Area.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

W. S. PARKER

M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.I.H., D.P.H.

1954

BRIGHTON
THE SOUTHERN PUBLISHING CO., LTD., 50 NORTH STREET—K1800

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
ROYAL YORK BUILDINGS,
BRIGHTON, 1.

June, 1955.

To the Members of the Brighton Education Authority.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my annual report as Principal School Medical Officer.

The outstanding feature of the year has been the introduction of afternoon sessions of routine medical examinations in the schools. The annual visit of the school health team will now be spread over fewer days and so this necessary interruption of the work of the school will be reduced to a minimum.

In considering the work of the School Health Service, it must be remembered that any time a child loses from school attendance is lost for ever : the loss cannot be made up. In exactly the same way a child's time is irretrievably lost, the teacher's effort is wastefully expended and the cost of that particular item of education rendered valueless if the child is not as fit as possible to benefit by what is placed before its attention while at school. If a child is hard of hearing and its defect is not known it does not hear its teacher and so may be labelled inattentive or stupid : if the defect is discovered and remedied or even if the child is moved to the front row, it receives a better chance. A child with an eye defect may not see the board clearly or may not be able to recognize ordinary print in a book. If the defect is undiscovered the child may be regarded as backward when, in truth, what it needs is an ophthalmic surgeon to examine its eyes for disease or optical defect and then to arrange treatment or to prescribe spectacles as the case may be.

In the same way a child who cannot run about with his playmates is shut off from a considerable part of the normal contacts and happenings of the child community. Restriction on movement may be due to disease or deformity of the joints or bones : in such cases his comrades make due allowance for his obvious disability. Another group, externally no different from other children, come into the category of what I prefer to describe as "chest cripples", that is those children who become breathless on exertion by reason of a heart or lung defect. They are not in as favourable a position as the recognisably-deformed child for they avoid exertion without obvious defect and so may be dubbed lazy or un-co-operative in physical activities.

By the identification of these and other defects and by arranging suitable attention the School Health Service ensures that every child is in the best possible condition to benefit by the education facilities offered : the teacher is assured that his efforts will not be wasted : the necessary expenditure on education is not squandered by reason of the innocent unreceptiveness of pupils who may be defective in health.

In homes where conditions are unsatisfactory, a pupil can be so affected by the environment, medical or social, that he is held back from making the most of his time at school. The main responsibility for the amelioration of these conditions falls on the school nurse acting in her capacity as a health visitor. When there is proper appreciation of the significance of home conditions in relation to and when there is proper liaison with the facilities of the Health Department to put things right a child can make the most of his education without carrying a millstone round his neck by reason of coming from a bad home.

A proportion of the child community variously estimated at between five and ten per cent. is unable by backwardness to take advantage of the ordinary facilities of public elementary education. These educationally subnormal children range from dullards to those only just above the standard of certifiable mental deficiency. They have to be identified and their mental capacity ascertained. This work is the responsibility of the School Medical Officer: it is on his decision that the necessary special educational facilities for these unfortunates are obtained.

In the schools themselves, factors of heating, lighting, ventilation, safety measures, adequacy of sanitary facilities, food hygiene, and the like, have a bearing on the health of pupils. To attempt to achieve satisfactory health standards in the absence of professional medical advice is to venture on an uncharted sea. In advising on planning of schools and commenting on existing conditions the School Health Service is at once a protection to the local education authority and to the pupils for whom it is responsible.

The value of the School Health Service should be judged on the results of its preventive measures whereby as many fit children are maintained in as many fit schools on as many days as possible.

In presenting this report I have to mention the interest of the Committee in the work of the service.

Yours faithfully,
W. S. PARKER.
Principal School Medical Officer.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1954

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor W. H. G. Button

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN W. G. DUDENEY, J.P.)
ALDERMAN T. P. CULLEN
" J. E. HAY
" J. A. T. LEAK
" MISS D. E. STRINGER
" CHAS. H. TYSON, B.SC.
COUNCILLOR D. S. Y. BAKER, M.B.E.
" A. E. BASSETT
" MRS. A. H. BEVIS
" S. D. DEASON
" G. FITZGERALD
" C. R. GERRARD
" G. T. HEAD
" MRS. E. M. HIDER

COUNCILLOR E. W. KIPPIN
" A. J. SADLER
" J. C. SHERROTT
" MISS E. M. SHORT, M.R.S.T.
" MISS J. M. K. SIMMONS, M.A.
" W. C. TOMPSETT
The REV. CANON D. H. BOOTH, M.B.E., M.A.
The REV. R. W. R. COOK, B.A.
MR. E. W. R. EDE
MR. E. J. FITZGERALD
MRS. S. FOWLER
MRS. M. G. MILLS, M.A.
MR. A. L. PERKINS, M.A.
The REV. W. A. SMITH
MR. F. A. STEEL

SCHOOL SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor D. S. Y. Baker, M.B.E.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN W. G. DUDENEY, J.P.)
ALDERMAN LEAK
COUNCILLOR MRS. BEVIS
" BUTTON
" HEAD
" MRS. HIDER

COUNCILLOR KIPPIN
" MISS SHORT, M.R.S.T.
" TOMPSETT
MR. EDE
MRS. FOWLER
MR. PERKINS, M.A.
MR. STEEL

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND EMPLOYMENT BRANCH SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman : Mr. E. W. R. Ede

COUNCILLOR BAKER, M.B.E.
" BUTTON
" DEASON
" HEAD
" MISS SHORT, M.R.S.T.
" TOMPSETT

MR. FITZGERALD
MR. MARKHAM
MISS BLACKMAN
MR. POTTER, B.A.
MRS. TILNEY

MANAGERS OF THE BRIGHTON DAY SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR
EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL CHILDREN

Chairman : Councillor W. H. G. Button

ALDERMAN HAY (appointed Dec. 1954)
" LEAK
" ROBBINS
" MISS STRINGER
COUNCILLOR BAKER, M.B.E.
" MRS. BEVIS
" GERRARD

COUNCILLOR MRS. HAY (appointed Dec. 1954)
" Head
" SADLER
MISS SHORT, M.R.S.T.
MR. EDE
MRS. BRANFORD

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE STAFF

Medical Officers

W. S. PARKER, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.I.H., D.P.H., Principal School Medical Officer.
 I. D. M. NELSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., Deputy Principal School Medical Officer.
 L. B. PETERS, M.B., B.S., Senior School Medical Officer.
 L. D. WILLIAMS, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., School Medical Officer.
 A. O'CALLAGHAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., School Medical Officer (to 25/12/54).
 J. A. CHOLMELEY, F.R.C.S., Orthopaedic Surgeon
 B. THORNE-THORNE, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.O. } Part-time
 Specialists

Dental Officers

D. MACKAY, L.D.S., U.St.AND., Principal School Dental Officer.
 B. A. RILOT, L.D.S.R.C.S., School Dental Officer.
 PAULINE OSIS, D.D.D., School Dental Officer.
 C. S. NEAME, L.D.S.R.C.S., School Dental Officer (to 31/7/54).
 R. H. THOSEBY, L.D.S.R.C.S., School Dental Officer (from 1/3/54).
 P. A. CHANDLER, L.D.S.R.C.S., School Dental Officer (from 8/11/54).
 N. R. W. SPACEK, M.B., D.A., F.F.A.R.C.S., Anaesthetist (part-time).

Speech Clinic

Miss J. ASHDOWN, L.C.S.T. (to 31/12/54).
 Miss A. McILROY, L.C.S.T. (Temporary).

Orthopaedic Clinic

Miss J. M. GOLDSMITH, M.C.S.P., Senior Physiotherapist.
 Mrs. D. McNULTY, M.C.S.P., Assistant Physiotherapist.

School Nurses

Mrs. M. REED	Mrs. A. TURNER (from 11/1/54).
Miss M. J. RAFFERTY (to 6/10/54).	Miss A. WEBBER, Senior School Nurse.
Miss A. ORRIDGE.	(from 7/9/54).

Clerical Staff

Mr. F. N. WRIGHT.	Miss P. DAVIS (to 25/6/54).
Miss V. I. NANSCAWEN.	Mrs. P. BELLIS (from 19/7/54).
Miss C. GREEN (Orthopaedic Clerk).	Miss A. MAJOR (from 9/8/54).

Dental Attendants

Miss D. SILVER, Senior Dental Attendant.
 Miss B. CHILDS.
 Miss P. STRONG.
 Mrs. D. J. MORLEY.
 Miss L. CARVELL (from 18/1/54).
 Miss E. GYLES (from 20/12/54).

Schools Maintained by the Brighton Education Authority.

				No. of Schools	Average No. on Registers	Average Attendance
County Secondary	...	...	...	16	6,190	5,712
Voluntary Secondary	...	...	...	1	262	238
County Primary	...	...	...	34	11,212	10,065
Voluntary Primary	...	...	...	14	2,705	2,408
				—	—	—
				65	20,369	18,423
				—	—	—
Brighton Day Special School for Educa- tionally Sub-normal Children	...			1	100	88
Nursery Schools	...	...	...	2	79	65
Brighton, Hove & Sussex Grammar School	...	...	...	1	*524	499
(Jointly maintained by Brighton and East Sussex Education Authorities).						

* 243 pupils belong to Brighton.

269 pupils belong to East Sussex.

12 pupils to other Education Authorities.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS IN 1954

The arrangements made by the Authority for the medical inspection of pupils attending schools maintained by the Authority are those prescribed in Regulation 10 (1) (a) of the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1953, which requires :—

“a general medical inspection of every pupil on not less than three occasions at appropriate intervals during the period of his compulsory school age and other medical inspections of any pupil on such occasions as may be necessary or desirable :

Provided that there may be fewer than three general medical inspections for any pupil who attends schools maintained by the Authority for less than the period of his compulsory school age or, if the Minister approves, for all pupils.”

(a)	Children inspected as soon as possible after the date of admission to a maintained school for the first time	...	...	1,976
(b)	Children inspected during the last year of their attendance at a maintained Primary School	...	...	2,118
(c)	Children inspected during the last year of their attendance at a maintained Secondary School	...	...	1,701
				—
				5,795
	Additional Periodic Inspections	...	...	1,342
				—
	Grand Total	...		7,137
				—
	(Total for 1953	...		5,754)

The increase in numbers over the 1953 total is due to the introduction of afternoon sessions of medical inspection in the schools.

The percentages found to need treatment were :

(a)	Entrants	...	29.9%
(a)	Intermediates	...	16.0%
(c)	Leavers	...	14.3%
(d)	Additional	...	23.0%

214 new cases of defective vision were found at the routine medical inspections :

Entrants	22
Intermediates	68
Leavers	60
Additional	64
Total	<u>214</u>

The attendance of parents at school medical inspection show a slight reduction for the year. 87% of parents attended the initial examination of entrants ; 66% attended the intermediate examination, and 15% attended the medical examination of school-leavers.

Diphtheria Immunisation of school-children

At School:

Primary injections	271
Reinforcing doses	1389

At School Clinic:

A session is held at the School Clinic for those children who were absent at school and for those where the numbers do not justify a special visit to the school. 498 such children were immunised during the year.

It will be noted from the above figures that there are still far too many children who arrive at school age without having had a primary protection against this dread disease. One reason is that so few people have have any direct experience of diphtheria that it is difficult to bring home the seriousness of the situation. It is regrettable that so much unnecessary effort has to be made to persuade people to do the obvious. Only a very small proportion are actively opposed to the principle of immunisation against diphtheria. In the vast majority the sense of urgency is lacking.

Central and Branch Clinics

Clinic	Times of Attendance	Work Undertaken
CENTRAL SCHOOL CLINIC, SUSSEX STREET :	Full-time	Centre for examination of special cases, ophthalmic, orthopaedic and speech therapy. Inspection, minor ailment and immunisation clinics. Routine dental treatment and dental treatment of emergency cases. General anaesthetics and dental radiography. Infant Welfare appointments.
BRANCH MEDICAL CLINICS :		
Moulsecoomb Senior Boys' School	Thursday afternoons	Minor ailment (Nurse only)
Whitehawk Senior Boys' School	Friday afternoons	Minor ailment (Nurse only)
Patcham Infants' School	Alternate Wednesday afternoons	Minor ailment (Nurse only)
Carden Infants' School	Alternate Wednesday afternoons	Minor ailment (Nurse only)
Carden Junior School	Monday all day	Speech therapy
Whitehawk Infant Welfare Centre	Tuesday all day	Speech therapy
Moulsecoomb Senior Girls' School	Wednesday all day	Speech therapy

Central and Branch Clinics—cont.

Clinic	Times of Attendance	Work Undertaken
Balfour Road School	Thursday afternoons	Speech therapy
BRANCH DENTAL CLINICS : Carden Junior School	Tuesday all day	Emergency cases, routine appointments. Infant Welfare appointments.
ditto	Wednesday mornings	Routine appointments.
ditto	Friday all day	Emergency cases. Routine appointments.
Whitehawk Infant Welfare Centre	Monday all day	Emergency cases, routine appointments. Infant Welfare appointments
ditto	Wednesday afternoons	Routine appointments.
ditto	Thursday all day	Emergency cases. Routine appointments
Moulsecoomb Villa, Infant Welfare Centre	Monday all day	Routine appointments. Infant Welfare appointments.
ditto	Tuesday mornings	Emergency cases. Routine appointments.
ditto	Thursday mornings	Routine appointments
ditto	Friday all day	Emergency cases. Routine appointments
CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC, PRINCES STREET :	Thursdays—3 sessions Fridays —1 session	Child Guidance
CLEANSING STATION, CIRCUS STREET :	Full-time	Scabies and verminous treatment.

Number of Attendances at Clinics. (The figures in brackets here, and throughout the Report, are the corresponding figures for 1953).

At Central School Clinic :

35,480 (30,568) made by 13,234 (12,572) children.

At Moulsecoomb Branch

Minor Ailment Clinic : 461 (602) „ „ 185 (226) „

At Whitehawk Branch

Minor Ailment Clinic : 506 (331) „ „ 176 (253) „

At Patcham & Carden Branch

Minor Ailment Clinics : 69 (53) „ „ 33 (38) „

Other Particulars

Special inspections at Clinic and Schools by Medical Staff 3,090 (4,181)

Re-inspections at Clinic and Schools by Medical Staff ... 4,579 (5,647)

Attendance of parents at inspections 3,708 (3,727)

Refusals of medical inspection 29 (17)

Visits to School Departments by School Nurses ... 753 (458)

Cleanliness examinations of children in school by Nurses 48,294 (48,515)

Home visits by Nurses 635 (754)

MEDICAL TREATMENT

Defect	No. of Children Treated		Re-examinations		Total Attendances		Discharged	
External Eye :								
Blepharitis... ..	173	(85)	253	(278)	426	(363)	173	(82)
Conjunctivitis	52	(79)	138	(307)	190	(386)	52	(75)
Others	102	(127)	229	(392)	331	(519)	101	(120)
Ear :								
Earache	201	(245)	614	(647)	815	(892)	199	(237)
Otorrhoea	44	(62)	304	(522)	348	(584)	44	(51)
Deafness	16	(25)	46	(33)	62	(58)	12	(25)
Skin :								
Ringworm, scalp	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)
„ body	—	(6)	—	(10)	—	(16)	—	(6)
Scabies	5	(7)	5	(7)	10	(14)	5	(7)
Impetigo	80	(54)	205	(186)	285	(240)	80	(53)
Miscellaneous	1,523	(2,195)	3,448	(3,683)	4,971	(5,878)	1,482	(1,981)
Other skin	294	(347)	741	(812)	1,035	(1,159)	263	(317)
Orthopaedic :	1,176	(1,254)	6,838	(5,690)	8,014	(6,944)	278	(234)
Speech :	316	(267)	4,179	(3,262)	4,495	(3,529)		
Visual :	666	(Treated at Ophthalmic Clinic, School Clinic)						

The most remarkable feature of these statistics is the continued absence of ringworm of the scalp.

Only five cases of scabies were seen in 1954. In 1953 seven cases were detected.

Tonsil and Adenoid Operations

During the year 485 children were referred to the Sussex Throat and Ear Hospital. The number of operations performed was 325.

Cardiac Clinic

Table of Types of Heart Defect seen during the year

	Infants	Juniors	Seniors	Total
Mitral stenosis	1	—	—	1
Aortic stenosis	1	—	1	2
Patent ductus arteriosus	1	—	—	1
Septal defect	2	—	—	2
Incidental and innocent murmurs	4	2	6	12
Diagnosis not established	3	4	3	10
Heart healthy	5	9	8	22
	17	15	18	50

Ophthalmic Clinic

During the year 42 sessions were held by the consultant ophthalmic surgeon. 666 refractions were carried out and glasses were prescribed for 410 children. The remainder either had suitable spectacles, did not require them, or required other forms of treatment for which they were referred to the minor ailment clinic or for further investigation at the Eye Hospital.

Sussex Eye Hospital

Children suffering from squint made 1,088 attendances to see the ophthalmic surgeons and 362 children had spectacles prescribed. 3,716 attendances were made at the orthoptic department and 141 new cases were seen during the year : 66 children had operative treatment.

Pediculosis

The prevalence of verminous cases shows a slight increase at 436 as against 399 in 1953. This must be clearly referable to the fact that there were only 4 nurses for most of the year. As a result, nurses were not able to visit schools for the detection of this complaint as often as in the previous year. Thus cases occurring had more opportunity of passing on the infestation to other children.

Parents of children found to be suffering from nits are sent a cleansing notice offering advice on treatment and requesting the parent to bring the child for examination in three day's time. If the child does not attend within this period, a further cleansing notice is sent and the child excluded from school and given another appointment to attend the Cleansing Station for treatment. In the event of non-compliance again by the parents, a school nurse visits the home to ascertain the child's condition. If necessary a cleansing order is issued. Children found to be heavily infested, or with head lice, are excluded from school at once

In cases of slight infestation a note is sent to the parents, drawing attention to the child's condition and the child is re-examined at school after a short interval. If no action has in the meantime been taken by the parent the above procedure is put into effect. This fully implements Section 54 of the Education Act, 1944.

The number of attendances for treatment was :

Verminous condition	...	...	...	998	(825)
Scabies cases treated	...	...	...	5	(7)

One Cleansing Order was issued during the year.

The school nurses carried out 48,294 (48,515) examinations at schools.

Handicapped Pupils

The following shews the number of children ascertained in the various categories during the year requiring education at special schools :

(a) Blind Pupils	...	...	...	—	(1)
(b) Partially-sighted Pupils	...	...	...	2	(1)
(c) Deaf Pupils	...	...	...	1	(1)
(d) Partially-deaf Pupils	...	...	...	—	(1)
(e) Educationally Sub-normal Pupils	...	...	...	38	(23)
(f) Epileptic Pupils	...	...	...	1	(2)
(g) Maladjusted Pupils	...	...	...	2	(9)
(h) Physically Handicapped Pupils	...	...	...	3	(5)
(j) Delicate Pupils	...	...	...	21	(41)

At the end of the year, 5 children were receiving education either at home or at the Special Class at Coombe Road School.

In addition to the 38 children requiring education at a special school for educationally sub-normal pupils 7 children were recommended for special educational treatment in ordinary schools.

Handicapped pupils are those who suffer a considerable handicap involving some degree of adjustment in their educational environment. It is important to realise that the term *Special Educational Treatment* does not only refer to education in the academic sense of the word but to any special steps taken

to aid the child's education. For example, the placing of a child who has a degree of deafness in the front of a class or the provision of special seating for a physically handicapped child represents special educational treatment though in both of these examples the instruction is identical with the normal children in the class.

During the year the names of 13 children were recommended for notification to the Health Authority under Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944.

Hollingdean Day Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils

1954. Admissions 20. Leavers 21

Number on register on December 31st, 100.

A complete medical examination was carried out on all children attending the school during the year.

The good work of the school has continued as before despite the handicaps of a dark and noisy building.

In the Headmaster's report it was gratifying to be able to note that a satisfactory state of employment amongst old pupils of the school was achieved.

The school is to be replaced by a modern building in 1955.

Speech Clinic

The extra facilities at new branch clinics established after the appointment of a second speech therapist in 1953 have permitted increased attendances with a consequent improved turnover of children in need of help. Clinics at Carden School, Whitehawk Clinic and Moulsecomb School are open one whole day every week. Close co-operation with the school-teachers, as well as with the parents, has proved very helpful in the treatment and understanding of a large number of "difficult" children at these schools.

Number of new cases seen during		
the year	113	(127)
Number of pupils treated ...	316	(267)
Total number of attendances ...	4,495	(3,262)
Total number of cases discharged	152	(100)

Types of cases treated during the year included the following :

Dyslalia (faulty articulation) ...	60	(76)
Sigmatism (lisp)	28	(28)
Stammer	25	(45)
Cleft palate	8	(11)
Nasal speech	3	(2)
Dysarthria	4	(5)
Alalia	2	(—)

It is with regret that I mention the resignation of Miss Ashdown after several years of excellent work as Speech Therapist during which she has built up the department to its present standard.

ORTHOPAEDIC DEPARTMENT

MR. J. A. CHOLMELEY, F.R.C.S., Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon.

During the year 1954, there has been, once again, an increase in the work of the Orthopaedic Clinic.

As will be seen from the tables, there has been an increase in the number of new cases referred to the Surgeon's clinics, both from the School and Infant Welfare clinics, and there have been considerably more re-examinations than in 1953. In-patient treatment has also been needed more frequently in the school-age group.

In addition to those cases seen by the Orthopaedic Surgeon, there is a large number of minor cases referred direct to the Physiotherapists for treatment—

particularly for individual and class exercises ; the figures show a slight fall, but it will be appreciated from the tables that the number remains very high, and comprises a considerable amount of the work which is carried out by the Physiotherapists, who are highly experienced at this type of work. When there is any doubt by the Physiotherapists as to the treatment required, the cases are referred to the next Surgeon's clinic.

It will be noted that quite a number of patients are receiving instruction in exercises at the swimming baths. These exercises are supervised by the Physiotherapists, and the types of children so treated included cases of poliomyelitis and cerebral palsy (spastic paralysis).

Due to early diagnosis and treatment of congenital defects, and the efficient treatment of conditions such as poliomyelitis and cerebral palsy, severe crippling can often be markedly reduced, but there is always a small residue each year who remain severely disabled and cannot attend and receive education at schools for normal children. These children have either to be sent to residential schools for the Physically Handicapped, receive Home Education or attend the special morning class held in Coombe Road School.

Although the number may not be great, I feel that serious consideration should be paid to the desirability of providing a suitable Day School for Physically Handicapped children in Brighton (in the near future). By the provision of such a school, the physically handicapped child would remain in the family circle and receive full education at the same time.

The number of cases treated for the different Departments was :

1. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Number of children treated	1,176	(1,254)
Total number of attendances	6,838	(6,944)
Number discharged (not including Surgeon's cases)	278	(234)

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Number of children treated	450	(443)
Total number of attendances	2,561	(2,233)
Number discharged (not including Surgeon's cases)	41	(55)

2. SURGEON'S SESSIONS

Number of sessions	25	(21)
Number of new cases referred from School Clinic ...	98	(81)
Number discharged	59	(53)
Number of new cases referred from M. & C.W. Department	53	(51)
Number discharged	39	(32)
Number of re-examinations	431	(351)

3. SWIMMING BATH EXERCISES

Number of sessions	20	(18)
Number of patients	56	(46)
Number of attendances	467	(311)

4. IN-PATIENT TREATMENT AT R.N.O.H., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

	<i>Number of Patients</i>						
Education	25 (7)
M. & C.W.	6 (7)

Employment of Children

433 children were examined during the year in respect of part-time employment. The majority of these children wished to undertake newspaper delivery.

Medical examination of Teachers and Student Teachers ... 65

Youth Employment

Consultations with the Youth Employment Officer are held at intervals throughout the year and have proved of great value. Advice which may be of help in placing young persons in employment is given where necessary.

Handicapped Children maintained by the Brighton Education Committee in Residential Special Schools and Independent Schools as at 31st December, 1954.

NAME OF SCHOOL	Blind	Partially Sighted	Deaf	Partially Deaf	Educationally Sub-normal	Maladjusted	Delicate	Physically Handicapped	Speech Defects	Epileptic	TOTAL
(a) RECOGNISED SCHOOLS :											
Barclay	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Blatchington Court	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Bruce Porter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Chaigeley	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Dedisham	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Drayton Manor	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Exhall Grange	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Heritage Craft	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	12
Hinwick Hall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Lingfield	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Meath Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Nutfield Priory	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Oak Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Ogilvie	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Portley House	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rayner's	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Royal School	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
River House	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Rudolf Memorial	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
St. Catherine's	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
St. Dominic's	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
St. Francis, Birmingham	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
St. Francis, Dorset	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
St. Joseph's	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ovingdean School	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Staplefield Place	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
(b) INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS :											
Hamilton Lodge	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Hever Warren Hostel	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Horncastle	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Peredur Home	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
St. Michael's Convent... ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Widdicombe House	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
TOTALS	2	4	15	8	3	12	8	15	-	3	70

NOTE.—In addition, one child was maintained at the Wedges Farm Camp School, Itchingfield, which admits children who are below par physically, but who cannot be regarded as delicate under the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations.

NUTRITION

Provision of Meals

In December, 1954, mid-day meals were being cooked at 18 schools and at 2 central kitchens. The meals cooked at the central kitchens were delivered to 31 school dining centres.

The total number of meals prepared during 1954, was 1,559,323 compared with 1,530,407 during 1953.

The number of children receiving milk on a given day in October, 1954, was 17,284 (20,408 children at school) compared with 17,060 in October, 1953, (19,721 children at school).

DENTAL REPORT

MR. D. MACKAY the Principal School Dental Officer, reports as follows :—

The work of the department was carried out during the greater part of the year by five full time dental surgeons assisted by five full time dental attendants. Towards the end of the year an additional dental attendant was appointed in order to give the senior dental attendant more time to deal adequately with increasing administrative and supervisory duties including arrangements at the outlying clinics.

The treatment of patients referred from the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, which had been discontinued for some years and was resumed in April, 1953, showed an appreciable increase. This work is a valuable adjunct to the School Service, as it is found that after these mothers have attended for treatment they readily ensure that their children come to receive the benefits of routine treatment. Up to one session per week was reserved by each dentist for the treatment of Maternity and Child Welfare patients; all the other sessions were devoted to the inspection and treatment of pupils attending the Primary, Secondary Modern and Grammar Schools.

During the year 12,061 school children were examined at the routine dental inspections and 7,628 (63.24%) were found to require treatment. The total number of children treated was 6,713 and 14,817 attendances (3,877 at the branch clinics) were recorded by these patients for treatment.

The parents of 71.8% of the children found to have defective teeth at the routine inspections accepted the offer of treatment; 81.75% of these children actually received treatment.

Throughout the year 85 children showing irregularity of the teeth were treated by extraction; 14 temporary and 127 permanent teeth were removed to remedy overcrowding. In addition 29 deformities requiring the use of apparatus were treated and 33 appliances were fitted to correct the irregular teeth of these patients.

At present the cases accepted for treatment with appliances are restricted to deformities where a good result may be achieved within a year. Other patients requiring specialist advice and in some cases prolonged treatment over a period of years, are referred to the Orthodontist working for the Regional Hospital Board at the Royal Alexandra Hospital. Close co-operation exists between the two services and 21 patients were helped in this way.

Arrangements were also made for 2 cases requiring surgical "in-patient" treatment to have the necessary operations done by the Dental Consultant of the Board at the Royal Sussex County Hospital.

The specialist Anaesthetist, who attends during one session each week, arranged for one particularly delicate patient to have treatment done under his care in hospital, where additional post-operative attention was available.

Although this concerns only a small number of our patients, this integration of the various services ensures the utmost benefit for the children.

The latest evidence with regard to the prevalence of dental caries, following investigations carried out in various parts of the country at the suggestion of the Ministry of Education, shows a decided increase of dental caries in 1953 as compared with 1948. The ending of the rationing of sweets and sugar and the return of white bread together with a plentiful supply of biscuits made 1953 and 1954 years of particular interest. While it may be said that freedom from rationing would not produce immediate evidence of a higher caries incidence it must be remembered that the chocolate and sweet ration which had been 12 ozs. per month in 1942 was increased from time to time until it became 24 ozs. when rationing ended in 1953. The presence of easily fermentable carbohydrates in the mouth has for some time been thought to be an important factor in producing caries. Yet it is interesting to find that a two year survey carried out under the direction of Professor H. H. Stones of Liverpool University, on the effect of allowing 22 ozs. of sugar in addition to the ration, showed there was no marked difference in the dental condition between the children receiving the extra sugar and the control group. Perhaps the significant point to note is that the extra sugar was given at meal times only. On the other hand recent comprehensive studies at the Lund Research Station in Sweden have shown "between meal carbohydrates" to be one of the most important factors in causing dental caries. The chief offenders in the carbohydrate group are sweets and biscuits, especially if taken between meals or in bed after the final brushing of the teeth for the night.

Mr. G. L. Slack, the Senior Lecturer in Preventive Dentistry of Liverpool University has this high carbohydrate concentration in mind when he advocates the habit of swallowing a mouthful of plain water after eating, having swished it well around the teeth to remove harmful debris. This routine rinsing should follow all meals or mid-morning and afternoon snacks of biscuits or sweets as it provides a logical means of reducing the caries attack rate by the removal of any carbohydrate substance essential to an increase of the organisms associated with the caries process. We commend the Liverpool "Bubble and Swallow" routine as a preventive measure likely to give good results.

The fluoridation of domestic water supplies in the United States has been of such value that the United Kingdom Mission has recommended the Ministry of Health to initiate fluoridation studies in selected areas in this country. The progress of these studies will be followed with interest but the findings are not likely to be available for some years. As a practical preventive measure of immediate value, we therefore suggest to parents that children should not be given sweets or biscuits in bed and that rinsing the mouth with water after meals or snacks should be encouraged. Children must brush the "toilers"—the back teeth which do the hard work—and not just the "smilers" or front teeth.

It gives me pleasure to acknowledge once again the kindly co-operation of the head teachers and teachers. Their assistance with regard to the inspections in the schools and the attendance of children for treatment is most helpful.

The statistical table is set out on page 20.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspection of Pupils Attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Special Schools).

A.—Periodic Medical Inspections.

Age Groups inspected and Number of Children in each :

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	1,976
Last year of attendance at a Primary School	...	...	...	...	...	2,118
Last year of attendance at a Secondary School	...	...	...	...	...	1,701
TOTAL						5,795
Additional Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1,342
GRAND TOTAL						7,137

B.—Other Inspections

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	3,090
Number of Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	4,579
TOTAL						7,669

C. Pupils Found to Require Treatment.

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with vermin).

NOTES.—(1) Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require treatment for a defect should not be excluded from this return by reason of the fact that they are already under treatment for that defect.

(2) No individual pupil should be recorded more than once in any column of this Table, and therefore the total in column (4) will not necessarily be the same as the sum of columns (2) and (3).

Age Groups inspected	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	22	587	591
Last year at a Primary School	68	279	340
Last year at a Secondary School	60	190	243
TOTAL	150	1,056	1,174
Additional Periodic Inspections	64	253	309
GRAND TOTAL	214	1,309	1,483

TABLE II

*A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspections in the year ended
31st December, 1954*

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease (1)	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not re- quiring treatment (3)	Requiring treatment (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not re- quiring treatment (5)
4	Skin	30	26	6	—
5	Eyes :				
	(a) Vision	214	272	166	46
	(b) Squint	68	53	39	—
	(c) Other	18	14	77	86
6	Ears :				
	(a) Hearing	12	25	10	11
	(b) Otitis Media	5	16	—	—
	(c) Other	5	20	—	10
7	Nose or Throat	402	410	205	193
8	Speech... ..	69	19	70	11
9	Cervical Glands	11	87	3	25
10	Heart and Circulation	43	121	5	33
11	Lungs	83	126	75	17
12	Developmental :				
	(a) Hernia... ..	2	6	—	1
	(b) Other	8	71	7	16
13	Orthopaedic :				
	(a) Posture	164	66	88	5
	(b) Flat Foot	111	56	82	4
	(c) Other	211	143	189	72
14	Nervous System :				
	(a) Epilepsy	6	2	3	2
	(b) Other	38	71	88	35
15	Psychological :				
	(a) Development	5	15	47	7
	(b) Stability	10	15	35	18
16	Other	44	73	157	180

*B.—Classification of the General Condition of Pupils inspected during
the year in Age Groups*

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	1,976	1,249	63.21	675	34.16	52	2.63
Second Age Group	2,118	1,491	70.39	603	28.47	24	1.13
Third Age Group	1,701	1,235	72.60	447	26.28	19	1.12
Other Periodic Inspec- tions	1,342	922	68.70	403	30.03	17	1.26
TOTAL	7,137	4,897	68.61	2,128	29.82	112	1.57

TABLE III*Infestation with Vermin*

(This relates to individual pupils and not to instances of infestation)

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	...	...	...	...	48,294
(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	...	...	...	...	436
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	...	...	...	...	409
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	...	...	...	...	1

TABLE IV*Group 1—Diseases of the Skin*

(excluding uncleanness for which see Table III)

							Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
							by the Authority	Otherwise
Ringworm : (i) Scalp	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	Not available
(ii) Body	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	"
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	"
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	"
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	294	"
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	379	"

Group 2—Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint

							Number of cases dealt with	
							by the Authority	Otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	...	...	...	...	...	...	327	Not available
Errors of refraction (including squint)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	802 Eye Hosp. 666 School Cl.
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	327	1468
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were :								
(a) Prescribed	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	772
(b) Obtained	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	551

Group 3—Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose, and Throat

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
Received operative treatment :		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	Not available
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	325
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	—	Not available
Received other forms of treatment	261	8
TOTAL ...	261	333

Group 4—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
(a) Number treated as in-patients	—	25
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments	1,176	Not available

Group 5—Child Guidance Treatment

	Number of cases treated	
	in the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	Elsewhere
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance	150	Not available

Group 6—Speech Therapy

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists ...	316	Not available

Group 7—Other Treatment Given

						Number of cases treated	
						by the Authority	Otherwise
(a)	Miscellaneous minor ailments		...	...	...	1,523	Not available
(b)	Other than (a) above (specify)						
	Orthoptic	...	...	...	...	—	141
	Appendicectomy	...	...	...	...	—	17
	Asthma ...	...	...	...	...	—	6
	Urinary infections	...	...	...	...	—	3
	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	—	6
	TOTAL		...			1,523	173

TABLE V

Dental Inspection and Treatment carried out by the Authority

(1)	Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :								
(a)	Periodic	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,061	
(b)	Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,180	
TOTAL (1)								...	14,241
(2)	Number found to require treatment (including specials)							...	9,808
(3)	Number referred for treatment (periodic inspections)							...	7,628
(4)	Number actually treated (including specials)							...	6,713
(5)	Attendances made by pupils for treatment							...	14,817
(6)	Half-days devoted to : Inspection							...	75
	Treatment							...	2,006
TOTAL (6)								...	2,081
(7)	Fillings : Permanent Teeth				...	...	...	...	8,725
	Temporary Teeth				...	...	...	...	695
TOTAL (7)								...	9,420
(8)	Number of teeth filled : Permanent Teeth				...	...	...	7,379	
	Temporary Teeth				...	...	...	652	
TOTAL (8)								...	8,031
(9)	Extractions : Permanent Teeth				...	...	...	1,320	
	Temporary Teeth				...	...	...	7,773	
TOTAL (9)								...	9,093
(10)	Administrations of general anaesthetics for extraction							...	1,035
(11)	Other operations : Permanent Teeth				...	...	...	2,279	
	Temporary Teeth				...	...	...	1,292	
TOTAL (11)								...	3,571

Number of Handicapped Pupils attending Special Schools: being educated under Section 56 of the Education Act 1944, or requiring places in Special Schools

	(1) Blind (2) Partially sighted		(3) Deaf (4) Partially deaf		(5) Delicate (6) Physically handi- capped		(7) Educat- ionally sub-normal (8) Malad- justed		(9) Epileptic	Total 1—9
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
On or about Dec. 1st, 1954 :										
C. Number of H a n d i c a p p e d Pupils from the area :										
(1) A t t e n d i n g special schools as										
(a) Day Pupils ...	—	—	—	4	—	—	100	—	—	104
(b) B o a r d i n g Pupils ...	2	4	9	4	11*	3†	3	7	3	46
(2) A t t e n d i n g independent schools under arrangements made by the Authority ...	—	—	4 board 2 day	—	—	—	1	4	—	11
(3) B o a r d e d i n Home ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
TOTAL (C) ...	2	4	15	8	11	3	104	13	3	163
D. Number of H a n d i c a p p e d Pupils being educa- ted under arrange- ments made under Section 56 of the E d u c a t i o n A c t 1944 :										
(1) in hospitals	—	—	—	—	(general sickness) —	7	—	—	1	8
(2) at home or other groups or units i.e. spastics ...	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	5
E. Number of H a n d i c a p p e d Pupils from the area requiring places in special schools (including any such unplaced children who are temporarily receiv- ing home tuition)...										
(a) Day ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	—	—	30
(b) Boarding ...	2	2	1	1	5	7	—	3	—	21

*incl. 1 at Camp School.

†also 13 children at Heritage.

*Handicapped Pupils requiring education at Special Schools
or Boarding in Boarding Homes*

	(1) Blind (2) Partially sighted	(3) Deaf (4) Partially deaf	(5) Delicate (6) Physically handi- capped	(7) Educat- ionally sub-normal (8) Malad- justed	(9) Epileptic	Total 1—9
In the calendar year ending 31st Dec., 1954 :	(1) (2)	(3) (4)	(5) (6)	(7) (8)	(9)	(10)
A. Handicapped Pupils newly placed in special schools or homes :	— —	— 2	14* 4†	20 3	1	44
B. Handicapped Pupils newly ascertained as re- quiring education at special schools or boarding in homes :	— 2	1 —	21‡ 3	38 2	1	68

*incl. 1 CampSchool.

†incl. children placed in Heritage Craft.

incl. 1 rec. for Camp School.

Number of children reported during the year :

(a)	under Section 57 (3) (excluding any returned under (b) )	...	...	...	5
(b)	„ „ „ relying on Section 57 (4)	...	...	...	—
(c)	„ „ „ (5)	...	...	...	8

of the Education Act, 1944.



